FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PERU'S ULLOA 'SATISFIED' WITH TALKS IN ARGENTINA

PY190206 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1400 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Mar (NA)--Manuel Ulloa, the Peruvian prime minister and economy minister, today said that he does not believe an international division of labor is feasible for Latin American countries, and he denied that Argentina and Peru have similar economic programs.

Ulloa made this statement at Ezeiza International airport shortly before his departure for Lima. During his stay in Argentina he signed several bilateral agreements with Argentina.

He said he was "quite satisfied" with the results of the negotiations he held in Argentina, and he noted that "yesterday we signed an agreement between Peru and Argentina involving a vast cooperation framework which we hope will strengthen our bilateral relations."

He said that he held "very cordial meetings with the newly appointed economic team, and I also met with the appointed Economy Minister (Lorenzo) Sigaut who completely agrees with the commerce secretary that this program must be strengthened through an agreement which is the basis for an understanding between our two countries."

Asked about an alleged similarity between the economic programs in Peru and Argentina, he said that "they are two completely different systems, and I do not believe that any comparisons can be made on this basis. I believe we cannot make any comparisons in this regard, because there are completely different situations."

Asked how he viewed the development of the Argentine economy, he said that "it is well known that the reorganization of an economic system is a slow and difficult process, since it is subject to numerous problems."

He noted that "there is no doubt that the Argentine economy is based on agriculture and industry, the former of which has experienced a spectacular recovery. I have seen estimates for last year's harvest and I believe this is probably a record figure in the history of Argentina, and this was achieved mainly on the basis of productivity. There is no doubt that an economic structure is strengthened through the strengthening of its agricultural sector."

He added that the industrial sector "is undoubtedly more complex, since the goal was to achieve a complete reorganization of the industrial sector, and this is a more complicated and difficult process which takes more time."

In this regard he said: "I would say that this is a very difficult period, a difficult transition period which requires much coordination and precision work that must be ably handled. But I am sure that the new members of the economic team are already aware of this, since they are excellent professionals who are aware of the situation. Moreover, I believe that the basic national objectives are still the same."

He noted: "I believe that there may have been some natural disagreements about certain aspects of national policy, but I believe that it is not proper for me to issue any judgments on the technical aspects of the economic leadership, since I have really had very little opportunity to make an in-depth study of the situation."

Asked about an alleged proposal for an international division labor for Latin American countries, he said: "I do not believe that this division of labor is feasible."

He noted that "although there are some countries that have extremely competitive economic levels, they nevertheless can complement each other. This would be the case of Argentina and Brazil, which can complement each other in the energy sector."

He added: "Moreover, Brazil has a certain degree of industrial development in view of its economic size, and I believe, therefore, that we have to look at this issue from a regional point of view and seek through coordinated planning large development programs to avoid duplication of effort."

Asked whether the Andean Pact will be able to overcome its present difficulties, he said that "I certainly hope so. We are now making a thorough review. Since this is an important issue we are reviewing the basic ideals of the pact, and I believe we will obtain some useful results. We believe that we must strengthen physical integration since this is the real basis for upholding any economic integration.

He noted, moreover, that "once this crisis is overcome all the member countries of the Andean Pact will be quite interested in strengthening and developing the concept of the pact."

OFFICIAL BEAGLE ANSWER PRESENTED TO POPE 17 MAR

PY181712 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1630 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Mar (TELAM)--Maj Gen Oscar Saint Jean, secretary general of the army, has disclosed that the Argentine Government yesterday handed its reply to the suggestions made by the pope to the members of the negotiation commission at the Vatican regarding the border dispute in the south. He added that the content of the reply is in accordance with the position that has been maintained by Argentina and that it aims at safeguarding the two-ocean principle.

The general made this statement during his customary press conference with the newsmen accredited at the Libertador Building and he stressed that the army is very satisfied with the position assumed by his holiness in always being ready to give attention to a conflict which it is not easy to find a solution to because there are too many alternatives to be able to satisfy both countries.

He also indicated that the Argentine delegates now have the necessary instructions to expand on the contents of the letter and the negotiations up to the point authorized by the members of the military committee.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS TO KEEP POSTS FOR 30 DAYS

PY191422 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1348 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (NA)--According to Decree No 465/81 released today, the provincial governors will remain in their posts until 30 days after the presidential change on 29 March.

This measure aims at guaranteeing the continuity of government action.

CHILEAN DAILY SCORES ARMED STRUGGLES, COMMUNISM

PY191257 Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Mar 81 p A3

[Editorial: "Armed Struggle"]

[Text] On the occasion of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Chilean Communist Party [PCCH], the leader and member of the Central Committee of that party, Silvia Soto, publicly stated in Maputo, Mozambique that the communists have decided to resort to armed struggle against the current Chilean Government.

For many sectors of national public opinion, this is not surprising and it is not even considered news. The communists in our midst have never disavowed armed struggle, having limited themselves to rejecting it on those occasions when the results would not be favorable to them. We must not forget that they coined the phrase "no to civil war" during the Allende administration and at the same time government vehicles proceeded to hand out weapons to civilians with the precise object of using them for a confrontation that had been planned by the communists.

During the current government, the communists have preached the strategy of the "broad democratic front." Yet the security forces have repeatedly revealed the testimony of communist militants who are actively committed to armed violence. When some of these individuals have fallen in confrontations there have always been groups interested in making them appear to be innocent civilians, thus implying that the weapons that had been found were placed there by the security services.

The explicit statements of Silvia Soto, an authorized leader of the party, will be useful to clear up the doubts of those who believe that the repression carried out against active communist cells is not an indispensable defensive measure to ensure social peace but a "persecution of political ideas." Communism is openly and admittedly committed to guerrilla violence and to the attacks and murders that it defines as "armed struggle" against the government.

As for the rest of it, the evidence that has been turned up after the capture or death in confrontations of militant communists has determined that some of them have received methodical training in countries within the orbit of the USSR--such as Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the GDR--and even in the USSR itself, with the objective of perfecting their guerrilla capabilities.

Everyone knows of the PCCH's dependency on collective governing by the USSR. The fact that the guerrilla instruction given to Chilean communists is being financed and implemented against the "peaceful and democratic" will of our country's communists, whether residents or exiles, is unthinkable.

The statements made by Silvia Soto only make it evident for everyone what many others already knew and they specifically emphasize for the majority of the country's public opinion, which desires to live in peace and which rejects subversive actions, that alliances with communism or the defense of its militants when faced with the precautionary legal action taken against them are coverups which contribute to the development of armed strategies that have been drafted abroad in order to oblige Chileans to fight among themselves.

M-19 THREATENS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WITH REPRISALS

PA200354 Paris AFP in Spanish 0050 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Quito, 19 Mar (AFP)--The 19 April Movement (M-19) is threatening to take reprisals against Ecuadorean Government officials if something happens to the 48 Colombian M-19 members who were arrested and turned over the the Colombian Armed Forces.

A leaflet signed "military forces of the south" was dropped off today at daily newspapers and international press agencies rejecting the turnover by the Ecuadorean military.

Some 48 M-19 militants who were running away from Colombian military forces were arrested by the Ecuadorean military last Sunday along the Ecuadorean border area at San Lorenzo. Later, according to official reports, they were all returned to the Colombian authorities.

A leaflet circulated today noted that in light of the latest incidents in Esmeraldas Province--in the San Lorenzo area--the M-19 "flatly rejects the turnover of the militants to the bloodthirsty Colombian Army without taking legal steps but leaving all decisions up to the arbitrary gorillas."

It also rejects the statement by Government Minister Carlos Feraud and Augusto Alvarado, secretary of public information, "who seek to distort the nature of our organization to justify the turning over of our compañeros to torture and death."

The leaflet says that when 23 unarmed compañeros turned themselves in to the political leader and rural police of San Lorenzo, they wanted protection.

However, it goes on, the Ecuadorean Government "in an unusual decision, forgets all principles of international law and sends our people to their death."

Ecuadorean President Jaime Roldos, Vice President Oswaldo Hurtado, Government (Interior) Minister Feraud and National Defense Minister Gen Marco Subia, as well as Foreign Minister Alfonso Barrera, are held responsible for the fate of the M-19 militants.

The M-19 warns that it will take reprisals against the responsible parties in the Ecuadorean Government, accusing them of high treason against the Latin American cause.

It calls for a radical change in the Ecuadorean Government after the attitude taken toward the M-19; "otherwise it will have to face the consequences."

COLOMBIA PRESENTS APOLOGY FOR AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS

PA191919 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] It was reported in Bogota today that Colombia has presented an apology to Ecuador for the recent violation of its airspace in the course of the present antiguerrilla offensive underway in southern Colombia.

Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmons explained that a Colombian Air Force helicopter had indeed crossed the border in the course of the operation, but when the pilots realized this, they apologized to the respective authorities and returned to their proper area.

ECUADOREAN PROPAGANDA MUST BE MET, OFFICIAL SAYS

PY181520 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Summary] Fernando Leon de Vivero, president of the Chamber of Deputies' National Defense Board, disclosed that this board will suggest that the teachers of the northern board have their salaries doubled and that delegations of students, intellectuals, journalists, workers, and union leaders be sent abroad to defend the Rio de Janeiro Protocol.

He stated that expenses for the defense of the nation should not be spared and that "it is necessary to neutralize the long and systematic Ecuadorean propaganda campaign, since our campaign has not been effective so far, due to the large amount of money Roldos' government spends in its anti-Peru campaign."

BOLIVIAN EXILES REPORT 'COUP ATMOSPHERE'

PY181943 Paris AFP in Spanish 1910 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Lima, 18 Mar (AFP)--Several deported persons who have arrived from La Paz, on their way to exile in Sweden, said here today that Bolivia is living in the agonizing atmosphere of a coup d'etat, reflected in the fact that the population is cowering before incidents among the military, alarming rumors and threatened economic standstill.

Fifteen people, including university students, mineworkers, women and children expelled from their fatherland, made a stopover in Lima today at noon and asserted that an armed coup is inevitable, "maybe even tonight," headed by the bloody Col Luis Arce Gomez, who has just been repudiated by the cadets of the military school. The latter published a declaration saying that the appointment of Arce Gomez as commander of the military school is indecent.

The refugees added that Gen Luis Garcia Meza is not immune to the fear and has sent his wife Olma to Spain while he himself is entrenched in the Miraflores headquarters or in his fortified mansion in San Jorge, avoiding as much as possible the Quemado presidential palace.

The refugees stress that Col Luis Arce Gomez has not resigned himself to being replaced as interior minister, the position he held until the end of last February and which gave him power over the lives and assets of Bolivians, with the support of a paramilitary force which has been blamed for hundreds of murders and uncontrolled destruction. They added that with the support of these paramilitary groups, he tried to convince the military school to carry out a coup, but the students in the last course, called brigadiers in Bolivia, not only refused to support the coup one night before last, but rebelled against the colonel and his brigades.

Rumors circulating among Bolivian refugees living in Lima state, however, that Arce Gomez continues to have the support of the military hierarchy that governs Bolivia, and that he will continue to be the commander of the military school.

Another rumor circulating among the refugees is that Gen Hugo Banzer is also trying to stage a coup d'etat, and that is why he was not allowed to return to Bolivia last week.

The refugees, who are traveling under the protection of the UN Committee for Refugees, added that this uncertain situation has affected the population and that national production has stagnated and even shows signs of a recession.

PRESIDENT SEES SIGNS OF HOPE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

FL181250 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0612 GMT 18 Mar 81

[ANN-APN-POOL-ASIN]

Mexico City, 17 Mar (NOTIMEX)--President Jose Lopez Portillo concurred tonight with Panamanian President Aristides Royo that favorable signs can be seen in Central America for a final solution to the problems affecting the region.

During a dinner he hosted for Royo at the foreign ministry, Lopez Portillo said that the solution to the Panamanian problem and the recent one to the Belize problem convey a sense that peace and reason are possible.

He noted that though there are forebodings of arbitrariness plunging the continent into uncertainty, there are signs that right may solve the problems.

He said that there is great danger of intervention in El Salvador; hence the foreign policy principles of self-determination must be reaffirmed as often as need be.

Rejecting any imperialist-style arbitration in the problem of El Salvador, Lopez Portillo said that brother countries could offer to arbitrate only if the Salvadorans themselves resolve their differences.

Arbitration in this sense, he said, would be guided by absolute respect for the will of the Salvadorans and then only when they themselves request it.

He asserted that peace is possible if the arbitration does not turn the domestic conflict in El Salvador into a subject for hegemony, because the situation would then become impossible to solve.

FOREIGN SECRETARY ON ECONOMICS, WORLD PROBLEMS

FL180241 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0114 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Brussels, Belgium, 17 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Mexico is firmly committed to the establishment of a new international order and is actively contributing to its realization, Mexican Foreign Secretary (Minister) Jorge Castaneda declared here today.

During a reception hosted by the foreign minister of the Kingdom of Belgium, Mr Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb, the Mexican foreign secretary said it is not a case of obtaining unilateral benefits from economic exchanges, but to establish relations of equality that take into account mutual benefit as well as the level of development of each country.

Jorge Castaneda said that the contemporary economic system has ceased to be operational and that the reforms being made evade the regional disparities of income and are insufficient even to assure stable growth of the highly industrialized countries.

In his remarks to government officials and members of the diplomatic corps, Foreign Secretary Castaneda said Mexico and Belgium share many topics of importance.

Our increased contacts and exchanges, he asserted, undoubtedly will contribute to expand the scope of our understanding and cooperation.

He emphasized the importance for the world of restructuring economic relations in cooperation schemes which favor a balanced international development.

Otherwise, he added, it will be impossible to prevent the economic deterioration of the majorities and the emergence of wars bigger than the ones experienced by our generation.

Elsewhere in his remarks, he referred to the need to speed up nuclear weapons disarmament and control plans, because as long as this is delayed, he said, difficulties will increase for implementation of a stable security system.

Jorge Castaneda asserted that many governments know that if quick and effective action is not taken, it is possible that the production of nuclear weapons will become universal.

However, he admitted that these same governments are delaying the signing and fulfillment of commitments which would hlep to halt the arms race for the transfer of military equipment and technology which will never return to their places of origin. [as received]

Although there is no lack of proper settings for the development of old and new wars, the Government of Mexico is particularly concerned over the Central American crisis which threatens to become an East-West confrontation, (?he said).

The foreign secretary specifically referred to the civil struggle being waged in the Republic of El Salvador which, he said, must be resolved by the Salvadorans without covert or open intervention.

It is up to the American community and the international community, he added, to guarantee the observance of this principle.

Castaneda asserted that prevention of internationalization of the problem and the creation of external conditions which favor an internal solution depend on the position that certain nations may assume.

PRI NATIONAL COUNCIL TO DESIGNATE NEW LEADERS

FL182129 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2110 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 18 Mar (NOTIMEX)--The National Council of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) tomorrow will deal with the resignations of its president and secretary general, Gustavo Carvajal Moreno and Jose de las Fuentes Rodriguez, respectively. The latter has already received the support of the workers', peasant and popular sectors of the PRI to become candidate for governor of Coahuila.

Some 250 council members, meeting at the PRI's Plutarco Elias Calles auditorium, will also temporarily designate as new president the present head of the Agrarian Reform Secretariat, Javier Garcia Paniagua. Likewise, they will also designate the new secretary general. Heading the list of five aspirants to the post is the Under Secretary of Agrarian Reform Guillermo Cossio Vidaurri. The other four are Under Secretary of Government Rodolfo Gonzalez Guevara; the governor of Hidalgo, Jorge Rojo Lugo; the former governor of Tlaxcala, Emilio Sanchez Piedras; and the former under secretary of government, Jose Luis la Madrid.

10,000 TONS OF CUBAN SUGAR TO BE PURCHASED IN 1981

PA181552 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico and Cuba signed an agreement for the sale of 10,000 tons of Cuban sugar during the present year. The document was signed by the director general of the National Union of Sugar Producers of Mexico and by Luis Rodriguez for Cuba.

PANAMANIAN VIEW OF ANCON HILL INCIDENTS PUBLISHED

PA191523 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Mar 81 pp 1A, 6B

[Apparent Panamanian Foreign Office communique on incidents with U.S. forces at Ancon Hill on 17 March 1981 titled: "Panama Makes Statement About Incident at Ancon Hill"]

[Text] Purusant to its procedural rules, the joint committee is handling the project of the Panamanian Tourism Institute (IPAT) to regularly operate several small buses to transport visitors to the recreational park located atop Ancon Hill. Since the route of the small IPAT buses cuts across the military coordination area called Quarry Heights, it behooves the joint committee to coordinate the transit of these vehicles through that area. However, the committee had previously established a special procedure which was applicable only on 15 March 1981, the inauguration day.

The agenda of the monthly meeting of the joint committee which was initially scheduled for 17 March 1981, but was postponed for the following day, included the discussion of a permanent agreement on the operation of the small buses on Ancon Hill.

According to the 1977 canal treaties and its complemental agreements, security at the military coordination areas is a joint responsibility of the Panamanian and U.S. Armed Forces. The Panamanian National Guard is responsible for security outside those areas and the U.S. forces are in charge of security inside them, including control on access to them.

The joint committee, which was established pursuant to Article III of the agreement for implementation of Article IV of the Panama Canal Treaty, is the permanent binational body of a party nature at which the armed forces of both countries consult each other in regard to the administrative coordination of the military coordination areas as described in paragraph 3 of Annex A of the agreement for implementation of Article IV of the Panama Canal Treaty, including Quarry Heights.

The incident that took place on 17 March was the result of a misunderstanding in regard to the duration of the special agreement for the inauguration day of the park on the part of the officials responsible for the project, which fact we profoundly deplore. However, we feel that the reaction of the U.S. militarymen of banning passage of the vehicles to Ancon Hill was a hasty step which constitutes an excessive show of force for alleged security reasons. In our opinion, this irregularity should have been immediately reported to the responsible members of the joint committee for prompt action.

The national government is keenly interested in having the Panamanian people make the widest possible collective use of the properties that have reverted to the Republic of Panama. This fact gave rise to the idea of installing the recreational park and other cultural facilities atop Ancon Hill as organized by IPAT.

Therefore, we urge the members of the joint committee, and especially the U.S. representative, to allow the project and all of its facilities to operate peacefully and without hindrance in order to let Panamanian citizens fulfill their long-standing repressed wish of climbing Ancon Hill.

TORRIJOS CHASTISED FOR REMARKS TO FOREIGN PRESS

PA152102 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Mar 81 p 8 A

[Article by Guillermo Cochez Jr: "The Torrijos We Do Not Know"]

[Text] Through one of those gifts that occasionally come to us in the newspapers published by the Editora [Editora Renovacion, printing house for the government's newspapers] which all of us help to pay for with our taxes) we learned about an interview given by General Torrijos to the publication CUADERNOS DEL TERCER MUNDO. It is interesting that we should have the chance to read in the foreign press what the person who rules our country thinks about us. We also learned there his views about international matters. This makes us think about his interest in resolving the problems of other countries while his rulers cannot find the formulas to resolve ours. A very nice person when away from home, but the very opposite at home.

This is why I will now sum up and comment on some of General Torrijos' brilliant ideas:

1. Torrijos affirms: "In general, the armed forces are depoliticized." This must mean that they are not.

2. Torrijos says: "Militants of all parties give political courses to the armed forces." Marxists have lectured to them many times, but only on one occasion, on 22 March 1980, did representatives of the National Liberation Party, the Agrarian Labor Party and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] go to Rio Hato to hold a dialogue with the institution's lieutenants. It is a known fact that neither the Panamanist Party nor the Popular Action Party representatives have taught any course to the National Guard.

3. With incredible certainty Torrijos affirms: "We have pushed the country forward these last few years. We have improved the economy." Perhaps, since he was talking about other countries, General Torrijos got mixed up in his answer, for he was surely not talking about the Panamanian economy.

4. Torrijos affirms: "No society can withstand a sectorial government, because there are no exchanges, there is no interplay of ideas in such a government. There is no creativity." In order not to be accused of demagoguery, we will not comment on this affirmation.

5. Regarding the elections held in September, Torrijos said: "They were so free that I do not even know who my children and wife voted for." Many Panamanians simply know that they were unable to vote because they were not in the lists. Nor were they given any explanation for the fraud in Veraguas and Bocas del Toro. As a result of the fraud in Veraguas, things were made easy for Torrijos' first cousin "to win" the election. And if the people of Chiriqui had not stood firm, the PDC would have been robbed of a legislative seat in order to give it to a buddy of Torrijos.

6. Even though Panama did not participate in the joint operation with the Americans, Torrijos Napoleonically affirms: "I think the Americans in the Southern Command are learning more from us than we from them. Significant changes are taking place within the U.S. Armed Forces." Now we Panamanians know why the National Guard did not participate in the joint operations: so its techniques would not be copied.

7. Regarding the cost of the Nicaraguan revolution, he said the following: "And the people contributed with 50,000 dead." It is extremely necessary to learn how much that "liberation operation" cost the Panamanian taxpayers.

8. Torrijos categorically affirmed: "The Nicaraguan revolution is not being exported. But it constitutes an example, and examples are imitated." One would have to add the following: "And when examples are not imitated, they are imposed, as is the case in El Salvador.

9. Regarding El Salvador, he says about the Christian Democratic Party: "They have hung out their nameplate without having the power. The real power is in the hands of the defense minister." Perhaps his categorical affirmation stems from his own experience with President Royo and he therefore thinks that the military rules everywhere.

We could continue commenting on General Torrijos' statements. We take advantage of this opportunity to tell him that if our country continues in his hands and those of the National Guard, very soon there will be someone talking about us *the way he now talks* about Nicaragua, El Salvador and so many other peoples whose stubborn rulers refuse to bring about the necessary changes demanded by those peoples.

CORREGIMIENTO ASSEMBLY ON MONTERIA TREATY

PA101952 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives today urged the executive branch to abstain from carrying out the exchange of instruments of ratification of the treaty popularly known as the Monteria Treaty, if these do not include the clarifying reservation approved by the aforementioned legislative body.

The declaration was issued today at the end of the sessions of the Foreign and Legal Affairs Commissions of the National Assembly. The sessions were attended by Foreign Minister Jorge Illucca and the government and justice minister. The main objective of the sessions was the analysis of the Ozores-Uribe Treaty and the recent events that have affected this treaty which are of great interest to the country.

PRESIDENT ROYO'S TRIP TO EGYPT POSTPONED

PA190328 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Foreign Ministry in Panama City today reported that President Aristides Royo's trip to Egypt, initially scheduled for this month, has been postponed.

BRIEFS

NEW BULGARIAN, CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADORS--The new Bulgarian ambassador to Panama, Kiril Zlatkov Nikolov, and the new Czechoslovak Ambassador to Panama, Frantisek Koutecky, have presented their credentials to Panamanian President Aristides Royo. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Feb 81 p 40 PA]

NEW TELEVISION STATIONS--Two companies, Medios Panamenos, Inc, and Panavision del Istmo, have been granted concessions to operate television channels 13 and 5, respectively. Both companies are expected to begin operations within the year. [Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 12 Mar 81 p 7 PA]

CANAL TOLLS--According to a Panama Canal Commission report, 1,232 ships wtih a total tonnage of 15,392,543 tons transited the canal in January 1981, which netted Panama 4,617,772 balboas. (Panama is paid 30 cents per ton.) This is a slight increase over January 1980, mostly explained because transit through the waterway is continuous and fairly stable. [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 8 Mar 81 p 1-A PA]

COSTA RICA

OIJ CONTINUES INVESTIGATION OF 16 MARCH BOMBING

PA191850 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] Judicial branch spokesmen yesterday said that a woman might be involved in the terrorist attacks perpetrated Tuesday morning in which, in addition to property damages, five persons were wounded, one of them seriously.

It is believed that six persons participated in the terrorist attacks, and that some clues have been discovered which will help solve the source of these attacks.

A large number of foreigners as well as Costa Ricans have been investigated by the Judicial Investigation Organization [OIJ], but so far the persons responsible for the attacks have not been found.

The OIJ laboratories are examining the chemical components of the two explosive devices which were thrown at a U.S. Embassy vehicle and placed in the Honduran Embassy on Tuesday.

Several chemicals were used to make these explosive devices and their names will be revealed after the analyses are completed. This investigation will be of great help in solving the puzzle. It will reveal if the explosive devices were built in Costa Rica or abroad.

'UNDESIRABLE' FOREIGNERS DEPORTED; MORE TO FOLLOW

PA192126 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The director of immigration, Rodolfo Quiros, has announced that 25 Nicaraguan and Salvadoran citizens will be deported today. Additionally, 10 more foreigners will be asked to leave the country and 8 Peruvians were turned back yesterday for not bringing money with them, as tourists should.

Quiros warned that foreigners who cannot prove that they are financially solvent will be deported in a matter of hours, as well as all those who, even if they are in the country legally, become involved in subversive or political activities.

Quiros also said Costa Ricans are cooperating with the immigration office regarding the presence of foreigners in the country. He asked everyone to report the addresses of foreigners to the authorities, especially the addresses of Nicaraguans and Salvadorans, even if they are in the country legally.

The directorate of immigration is working with the rest of the authorities to rid the country of undesirable foreigners.

For his part, yesterday the public security minister once again stressed that all foreigners linked to the two terrorist attacks on Tuesday will be tried by the courts and after they spend their time in jail they will be deported.

Regardless of whether they are leftists or rightists or have Costa Rican relatives, the law will be enforced, Public Security Minister Arnulfo Carmona stressed.

This is the best and easiest way to get rid of the undesirable foreigners who have come to Costa Rica to engage in terrorist actions that are completely contrary to the Costa Rican way of life, he said.

NICARAGUAN DIPLOMAT ALLEGES POLICE ABUSE

PA181325 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Nicaraguan Embassy has lodged a protest against our police. It claims a female diplomat was insulted at her home and has asked for explanations from the Costa Rican Government.

Oscar Ramon Tellez, charge d'affaires of the Nicaraguan Embassy, yesterday protested to the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry because 20 men in civilian clothes, who said they were policemen, insulted his wife, who is pregnant. A note from the embassy indicates that the men entered Tellez's home in an apartment building yesterday at 1100 and asked his wife to identify herself, which she immediately did. However, the alleged policemen rudely insulted her in such a coarse language that it cannot be repeated.

The charge d'affaires of the Nicaraguan Embassy said these actions constitute a flagrant violation of provisions of the Vienna convention on diplomatic immunity. For this reason, the Sandinist government demands a satisfactory explanation of these actions and a promise that Nicaraguan diplomats will be accorded the same courteous treatment given to Costa Rican diplomatic officials.

CREDIT AGREEMENT SIGNED FOR VENEZUELAN OIL

PA171859 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Venezuela has granted Costa Rica a petroleum credit for $28 million.

As part of the petroleum agreement signed with Venezuela and Mexico on 3 August, a $28.7 million credit has been signed with the Venezuelan Investment Fund [FIV]. Manuel Naranjo, executive president of the Central Bank, signed for Costa Rica and Arturo Antonio Villamerandi, FIV director, signed for Venezuela in the presence of Venezuelan Energy Minister Alberto Calderon Berti and Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo.

These funds will be used to implement hydroelectric and geothermal development projects. The credit granted by the FIV will also be used to protect the balance of payments, said Costa Rican Energy Minister Fernando Altmann Ortiz.

Costa Rica has signed with the FIV a total of 22 contracts worth 229 million bolivares, some $80 million, since 1974. It has been stressed that Costa Rica is one of the countries that has made most use of FIV resources.

Venezuelan Energy Minister Calderon Berti said that for the time being there are no plans for a new increase in petroleum prices. Venezuela has maintained the position in OPEC that the organization cannot become a club of prices, Calderon Berti added. The last price increase was established in December and for the time being no new increase is planned.

For his part, President Rodrigo Carazo said that with the agreement signed with Venezuela and Mexico in August 1980, the supply of 7,500 barrels of petroleum a day from those countries is guaranteed. Credits for up to 30 percent of the petroleum bill are also granted through the agreement. This represents $800 million in aid for the Central American and Caribbean countries covered by the agreement.

Our peoples should be grateful for this action by the Venezuelan and Mexican Governments, because it represents the solidarity that we need, Carazo added.

WORKERS GROUP ACCUSES GOVERNMENT ON STAPLE PRICES

PA161749 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Over 100,000 people are jobless in Costa Rica as the government there has openly dedicated itself to sabotaging the liberation of other Central American nations. In 1980, unemployment reached 13.5 percent.

Meanwhile, the Costa Rican Confederation of Democratic Workers was accused the government of not fulfilling a governmental resolution in connection with the prices of staples. According to this organization, prices are being raised without any controls.

CUBANS ON HUNGER STRIKE WANT TO GO TO U.S.

PA151634 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] Four out of 35 Cubans who have been on hunger strike for 1 week are in serious condition. These people, including a woman, have not been able to get up for 2 days because of their bad physical condition. They have not received any medical attention.

The Cubans maintain that they will continue the steike until the Costa Rican Government makes efforts to send them to the United States, where they claim to have relatives.

EL SALVADOR

OPPOSITION FOR, FMLN REPUDIATE SAN JOSE TERRORISM

PA200416 Paris AFP in Spanish 0002 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Excerpt] San Jose, 19 Mar (AFP)--The Salvadoran opposition forces, the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) have declared they had no involvement in the dynamite attacks here on Tuesday, a communique released here by the SALVADORAN PRESS AGENCY (SALPRESS), linked to the opposition in that country, said.

The Salvadoran organizations also repudiate "the dirty maneuver of trying to involve us in Tuesday's events when we had no part since they are unrelated to our activities."

The FDR and FMLN released a seven-point document appealing "to honest Costa Rican and world institutions, organizations and persons to remain alert because the recent attacks are a campaign of hatred against foreigners."

The enmity of the Costa Rican people toward the struggle of the Salvadoran people would be the first objective of this campaign described by the FDR and the FMLN. It would also serve to "promote the presecution of all refugees fleeing from repression by the Salvadoran Government junta."

The communique reasserts "its respect for the policy of self-determination of peoples and the principle of nonintervention in internal affairs."

ARMY CAPTURES DOCUMENTS ON LEFTIST ACTIVITIES

PA192328 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 19 Mar 81 pp 3, 38

[Text] Valuable documents have fallen into the hands of the armed forces during searches of homes in the Escalon neighborhood, including a "diary" in the possession of a youth who is closely linked to leftist activities, according to an official report.

The "diary" lists dates on which the owner was informed of the receipt of large amounts of dollars from various parts of the world, particularly from Europe.

The largest amount was $80,000, and there were smaller shipments of $40,000 destined for the self-styled Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces.

In less than 1 year some $2 million has come from abroad for that organization, according to the "diary," which was shown to us at a security forces post.

The document also contains names of persons linked to the extremist groups and who receive instructions from abroad, particularly from Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

The document recognizes that the extreme left is losing strength as a result of desertions, casualties, confiscation of weapons and the dubious behavior of its leadership.

In several paragraphs on different dates, the author of the "diary" indicates that several leaders of extremist organizations are wounded or ill.

Military authorities believe the wounded or ill might include Salvador Cayetano Carpio, "Marcial," of the FPL, and Jorge Shafik Handal, of the Salvadoran Communist Party. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish at 1730 GMT on 19 March reports that Shafik Handal "has been in Beirut for the past 24 hours, where he was received by two leaders of the Democratic Front For the Liberation of Palestine."]

The security forces, who have copies of this document, are investigating the persons listed there to have them explain the nature of their links to the extreme left.

SUBVERSION DECLINES AS ARMY CUTS ARMS SUPPLY

PA192250 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1153 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Station commentary: "Marxist Subversion Is Declining"]

[Text] The Marxist guerrillas operating in Salvadoran territory will no longer find it easy to receive arms from abroad. However, the subversives still have quite a few from the old shipments that they received through Nicaragua from Cuba and other communist countries.

The border areas through which these weapons are presumably brought in are now closely watched. The same is true of our entire coastline. The latest attempt to smuggle war materiel to the subversive groups was thwarted by Honduran troops last week.

According to reports from Tegucigalpa, in the area around Zambrano, some 35 km north of the Honduran capital, three heavy trucks were stopped. They were loaded with weapons believed to be destined for the Salvadoran subversives.

This is the third arms shipment confiscated by troops of the neighboring country in less than 3 months. The first was in a truck with a false roof and the second cache was found on several estates in Comayagua Department. This shipment consisted of rifles and automatic pistols, ammunition of different calibers, rocket launchers, shells for 81-mm mortars and radio equipment. On this occasion, 11 Salvadorans, 1 Costa Rican and 3 Hondurans were arrested. The Honduran authorities estimate that these shipments contained enough weapons to arm from 500 to 700 men.

As can be seen, the Honduran autorities are not willing to allow arms smugglers to operate freely in their country, taking action against the stability of a friendly government like that of El Salvador.

The Marxist subversion is obviously declining. It has become increasingly difficult for the subversion to receive supplies from abroad. Meanwhile, the government and the armed forces continue to keep the doors open for all those who, tired and disillusioned, wish to accept the benefits of the amnesty law and join in the great battle for peace.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT, GUERRILLA COMBAT ACTIONS

Army Cleanup Operation

PA192333 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 19 Mar 81 p 39

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee informed us yesterday that troops are continuing combing operations in the following departments: Chalatenango, Usulutan, Cuscatlan, La Paz, La Union, Morazan, San Miguel and so forth.

We were told that the cleanup operation is being carried out primarily in the rural areas, where the extremists hide more easily.

In some wooded areas the search is being carried out by land and by air, depending on the circumstances. In the coming weeks the armed forces plan even more activities to locate guerrilla hideouts.

Rebel Takeovers in Morazan

PA192010 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 18 Mar 81 pp 4, 37

[Excerpt] Subversives have poisoned potable water sources in Jocoaitique, Morazan Department, in the country's northeast, and have forced the population to flee for their lives.

According to reports obtained in the area, the guerrillas have cut telephone and telegraph lines and toppled electric towers. They have blown up supports and bridges with dynamite.

It has been learned that 11 of the department's municipalities are virtually isolated. The inhabitants cannot travel through the main and feeder roads as they fear becoming victims of the subversives. To seek refuge, they have to leave with their families at night and walk through areas under army surveillance.

Interior Ministry sources announced that water trucks have been sent to towns under protection by joint military forces. They said army forces in the area are daily repelling subversive attacks.

Meanwhile, authorities in San Juan Nonualco have reported that groups of armed men dynamite the Jalponga Bridge on kilometer 48 of the coastal highway.

Heavy Fighting in Morazan

PA191449 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] Armed clashes between the army and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, continued in the northeastern part of El Salvador and appear to be extending to other areas, according to reports from the INDEPENDENT PRESS AGENCY, AIP.

The fighting has already extended from Villa Victoria, 90 km northeast of San Salvador, to the vicinity of the 5 November Dam, according to AIP.

The reports added that 20 soldiers were killed or wounded yesterday in action at the San Nicolas Canton, where the FMLN reported only slightly wounded casualties.

In the northeastern Morazan Department, scene of heavy fighting at the present, the armed forces continue denying access to reporters interested in covering the action in the area.

The FMLN, meanwhile, today called for international support in demanding that the military junta respect for the lives of the civilian population in northern Morazan and in the areas of Guazapa and Suchitoto. Victor Guerrero, spokesman for the Salvadoran revolutionary organization, explained that large number of children and elderly people are fleeing from the indiscriminate bombings by the armed forces in the area. He compared the present situation in the area with previous experiences endured by the Vietnamese during the U.S. aggression. Guerrero explained that the army is trying to dismember the FMLN forces in La Esperanza region through massive extermination operations.

The FMLN spokesman added that the governing junta forces have suffered casualties of at least 60 dead or wounded in the Guazapa and Suchitoto.

Encirclement of Guerrillas

PA200241 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1702 GMT 19 Mar 81

[By Ricardo Medina]

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran guerrillas are losing ground in the north and they may be encircled by the armed forces, which are attacking from the south, and by the Honduran Army in the north which will not let the rebels into their territory.

Even though the fighting in Morazan Department, in northeastern El Salvador along the Honduran border, began in San Francisco Gotera, it has spread slowly to the northern border, according to the latest military bulletins.

In its latest communique the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front announced that it was going from guerrilla warfare to the consolidation of its strong positions, but this presupposes stopping the offensive to start defending itself.

The head of the group of U.S. military advisers in El Salvador, who asked not to be named, admitted that the guerrillas are strong in five areas: (eastern) San Vicente Hill, Guazapa Hill (near Suchitoto, 44 km north of the capital), (easternmost) Conghagua Hill, (northern) Chalatenango and (northeasternmost) Morazan.

Heavy fighting is currently underway in three of those areas (Suchitoto, Chalatenango and Morazan), and the cream of the crop of the two fronts is fighting in Morazan.

The guerrillas have the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) there, which has very well trained and armed members. It was reported that the army has three expert combat companies in Morazan which have recently received training at U.S. bases in the Panama Canal area.

In its latest war bulletin, the ERP reported that it controlled the road from Gotera to Perquin in the north and the road crossing the Torola River to Honduras.

However, the fighting has been increasing to the north of Morazan and it is now going on only along 15 of the 50 km of the Gotera-Perquin road.

The towns now in dispute are Jocoaitique, San Fernando, Arambala, Torola and Joateca, in addition to Perquin, where army advance forces have arrived in the support of artillery, air and 10 U.S. helicopter gunships, which arrived in the last few days.

The concentration of the entire ERP in that area would just give the guerrillas an opportunity to escape from Salvadoran soldiers by entering Honduran territory. However, this hardly seems likely. The Honduran Army has stated that, among other things, it is there to defend Honduras' territorial integrity and its people.

FMLN SPOKESMAN CLAIMS GUERRILLAS STRONGER THAN EVER

FL191630 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1521 GMT 19 Mar 81

[By Pedro Rojas]

[Text] Arnoldo Bernal Chevez, a representative of El Salvador's Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], has said in an interview for Radio Reloj that the guerrillas fighting against the Christian Democratic junta in his country are now stronger than ever. He said that the best proof of this was the fact that the action taking place now are on a larger scale than in the first days of the general offensive.

Bernal Chevez said the guerrillas had attained more objectives in the past 2 months than they had initially planned. He also said that the guerrilla forces are better trained, more numerous and much stronger. He told Radio Reloj that the guerrillas forces have inflicted many casualties on the regime's forces.

Bernal Chevez said that the main source for logistical supplies was the genocidal junta's army itself, and that they were the same weapons that the imperialists have been sending to El Salvador to try to shore up the tyranny. Referring to the campaigns that the imperialists have launched to make believe that the guerrilla forces have failed, (Bernal Chevez) said that reality has proved otherwise, because the guerrillas have attacked the army on all fronts and have inflicted many casualties whereas the enemy has failed to touch the strategic ranks of the FMLN. The junta's troops have failed to hit at us in the areas we occupy, the FMLN representative said.

Bernal Chevez accused the administration of Ronald Reagan of increasing military support for the Christian Democratic junta in El Salvador and blamed the administration for the thousands of crimes committed in his country. The U.S. Government is sending hundreds of tons of arms for the Salvadoran junta fascists to aim them at the hearts of our people, he said. He also said that in view of its continual failures in its encounters with the guerrillas, the regime's army daily murders tens of citizens in towns and -cities in a demonstration of its powerlessness and savage criminality. In conclusion, he said that despite everything, the Salvadoran people are determined to win--and they shall.

GUERRILLA COMMANDER SAYS DUARTE HAS LOST WAR

PA191556 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Interview with Jorge Melendez, commander of the Francisco Sanchez front, Morazan Department, no date given--live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] What can you tell us about the large number of civilians being massacred, beheaded, abused by the enemy as it passes by. Why has the enemy exterminated the civilian population in this manner? Why has it killed elderly men and women and children?

[Answer] This is what has happened. The enemy bombed the area. We withdrew and maneuvered to avoid the attacks. Since the enemy found no one to face immediately, after we withdrew, the enemy attacked the civilian population, who are seen by the enemy as an enemy. The enemy sees in the people their enemy.

After enemy attacks, the population has moved to our areas, to our territories, where they are safe. The soldiers have orders to assassinate children, women and elderly people.

We also have testimony from townspeople who speak about white people with blue eyes and others--tall, black and ugly--who speak a language they don't understand. We deduce that they are foreigners, that they are North Americans and that they are the ones who have given the orders to abuse these people.

[Question] Excuse me, companero. What recommendations can you, as political and military chief of this area, give to the peasants and townspeople who are outside our protection these days when the enemy passes through their cantons in their mobilizations?

[Answer] The truth is that the people in these cantons are already fleeing. They are in creeks. We are trying to get them out. So we have to address ourselves to the people in nearby areas and cantons who are enduring artillery and mortar fire and bombings. We are trying to give instructions to these people. They should dig trenches 50-cm deep and 60 cm wide which their families can get into and lay down when there is mortar fire. They should not dig these trenches in open areas, but in areas with palm trees, any trees. When the bombing begins, they should get in the trenches with their family. They should also try to store food and be able to take it out when the enemy arrives. They should take their animals, that is, whatever is food and bring it to our areas. Some of them know very well where they are. They know where they are. That is, they should not leave food for the enemy. They should bring it with them. If there is bombing, the trenches will give them protection. They must pay no attention to the noise which generates psychological terror. They must keep their women and children calmly inside the trenches and they must have confidence in the fact that we are working and carrying out military tactics and maneuvers to expel the enemy from this territory. [Words indistinct] for the time being they should remain in those positions. However, if the enemy advances, they will have to abandon those positions.

At this moment it is important to give these people a militia-type organization because we have to maintain a certain level of secrecy in those areas. [Words indistinct] we are organized, but we do have to provide food and the companeros working in those areas will give instructions in this regard. It is necessary to put much energy and efforts on the storing of food and tools. It is necessary to follow all the specific instructions that our militia chiefs issue in those areas.

[Question] Big Sergeant Duarte has been working hard in the past few days trying to convince the world, the Salvadorans and the Revolutionary Democratic Front that there is an alleged dialogue policy to promote peace. Much propaganda has been made about a possible promoting of elections in the country. What can you tell us about this?

[Answer] The dictatorship is completely demagogic. Right now, the people of El Salvador and all the people of the world know that the situation has reached the war stage because demonstrations were broken up with machineguns, labor leaders were tortured and assassinated and the economic situation of our people is terrible. If this has not been manifested in an open struggle yet, it is because of the repressive and crushing situation that exists.

To speak of a dialogue is to speak of a veil to fool the world. They will not fool the Salvadoran people. They have promoted an alleged amnesty, an alleged search for peace, calling on the Salvadoran people to abandon the struggle so that there may be democracy in our country. There is no democracy in our country; there is a dictatorship, 17 years of injustice, and a tremendous lack of information. No opinion other than that of the junta can be freely expressed in the news media.

Besides, Duarte can negotiate nothing. Duarte does not represent [words indistinct] the oligarchy and the United States need him now to tell all these lies, but Duarte cannot even discuss the government [words indistinct] he does not have real power. The real power is in the hands of the oligarchy, the United States and the fascist [words indistinct].

Duarte is just filling his role as [words indistinct] to try to give the appearance of a democracy to what is a dying dictatorship. Duarte is now talking about a dialogue. Before he spoke about a foiled offensive. He said that the final offensive was nothing but more nonsense from our people.

At this moment when we have seized positions, when we are maintaining the initiative, when they know we are planning our advances, when they know that we are stronger militarily--now he begins to talk about a dialogue. Now that he knows that he is lost politically, that he has no alternative, that he has no internal ally and that *internationally he is* already being isolated. Now Duarte talks about a dialogue. But Duarte cannot speak of dialogue. He is alone because of the killings, the genocide and the injustices against our people. What we have here is a legitimate war being waged by all the Salvadoran people [words indistinct] the United States and a genocidal army.

[Question] Companero, analyzing your answers, we could reach the conclusion that the dictatorship is completely destroyed, that big Sergeant Duarte is simply a cover and that in agony he is trying to remain on his feet, but the situation is something else. Why hasn't the dictatorship fallen yet?

[Answer] As you have said, we have won the war. However, at this moment, we are not only facing the dictatorship. We are facing the U.S. leadership as well. The dictatorship is being maintained economically and militarily. [words indistinct] from right here. From this very observation post we have seen, and you could hear, the amount of ammunition they use daily. Those millions of dollars in arms and communications equipment, as well as the money being used to create the impression that this country still has economic life, we owe to the United States. Were it not for U.S. aggression, were it not for U.S. participation and meddling, the genocidal regime would have been defeated already, our men would not be dying and we would already be building the mixed economy that the revolutionary democratic government plans to establish.

Therefore, we can say that our war is becoming not only a war of national liberation, but also a war of an entire nation, of broad sectors in the country, against a dictatorship being maintained by U.S. imperialism.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF VENTING IRE ON CIVILIANS

PA191852 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] At this point, 192 hours after the dictatorship began its opeation in Morazan Department, it has been unable to achieve its objectives of annihilating our forces and taking our positions. The line of fire remains unbroken. Our fighters have heroically defended our positions.

The enemy, impotent in the face of the people's response, has begun to bomb the peasant population, our forces' social base. In El Junquillo, the enemy staged a frightful massacre of children, women and the aged, all of them were unable to escape from the hordes of death led by the U.S. military advisers.

After the massacre at El Junquillo, we began to gather data and compile eyewitness testimony to identify those directly responsible for these crimes.

First of all, we found that women had been raped, children had been run through with bayonets. There were the same sadistic characteristics of the operation carried out in Morazan in October 1980, the same murderous cruelty, the same morbid pleasure in killing the innocent.

In our investigations, we heard one sinister name repeated by survivors: Napoleon Medina.

CONGRESSMAN LONG MEETS WITH PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN

PA200204 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 18 Mar 81 p 3

[Excerpts] Congressman Clarence D. Long, chairman of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations of the Appropriations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, met on Monday with representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises belonging to El Salvador's Production Alliance, the alliance reported.

The alliance representatives told the congressman about the need for the Salvadoran Government to hold a dialogue with the national sectors remaining in the country to rebuild it, but not with those who are destrcying it.

The alliance members said that "in light of recent malicious reports that misinterpreted our position (meaning the alliance statement rejecting the idea of a dialogue with the Revolutionary Democratic Front published on 6 March), we remain firm on that position because the desire for free elections cannot be misconstrued to mean a search for the establishment of a totalitarian regime, a regime the alliance rejects and repudiates in any form.

Congressman Long, who is professor and a firm believer in the free enterprise system, as he told the Production Alliance members, stressed that any economic assistance to El Salvador will have to be channeled to private enterprise, which he recognizes as "the most capable of achieving the desired goal."

GUATEMALA

BELIZE AGREEMENT CONTINUES TO STIR CONTROVERSY

President's Statements

PA191806 Guatemala City Radio-Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Report on 17 March statements by Guatemalan President Romeo Lucas on Belize agreement--passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] President Romeo Lucas today revealed the official actions that will be carried out regarding Belize following yesterday's announcement on the bases of understanding that were signed with Belize and Great Britain for the independence of Belize:

"Now then, this document will be presented to congress if the legal committee which will decide on the procedure to be followed states that the document should be turned over to congress. We will gather all the lawyers who work for the government to hear their opinions in order to find the best way to reform the constitution. We must reform the constitution to approve this agreement. That is why the lawyers will meet to discuss how this reform can be done."

The Guatemalan Christian Democracy and the National Unity Front parties today issued communiques stating that the agreement with Great Britain and Belize on the Belizean territory is unfavorable to Guatemala. The leaders of United Revolutionary Front said it will issue its opinion in this regard tomorrow. President Lucas has commented on some political parties' unfavorable reaction to the agreement on Belize:

"Well, each person has the right to express his opinion in Guatemala. As I said yesterday, there is unlimited freedom of expression here and each party can express its own opinion. However, if they see things as they really are, I think that in the end they will agree that the government is right."

The president referred to the reestablishment of relations with Great Britain which were interrupted in (?1963):

"Once the problem with Great Britain regarding Belize is resolved I am sure that we would renew diplomatic relations. I think this will be the result of the final talks when the independence of Belize will be declared. It is advisable to have relations with the big powers [words indistinct] cordial relations with Great Britain."

Regarding the establishment of a constituent assembly to consider the agreement on Belize, the president said it would be advantageous to make use of this opportunity in various forms:

"It would be advisable if there are some articles of the constitution that are believed to be obsolete to take advantage of a constituent assembly [words indistinct] take advantage of this opportunity.

Parties' Opposition

PA191738 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Three political parties have expressed their disagreement with the bases of understanding reached by Guatemala, Great Britain and Belize regarding the latter's independence. The National Unity Front [FUN], the National Liberation Movement [MLN] and the Guatemalan Christian Democracy [DCG] parties have expressed their opposition to the agreement.

The DCG said that the vagueness and generalization in the content and terms of the agreement could turn it into a mere ceding of rights if it does not specifically state when, how and with whom the agreements will be reached and what organization will be in charge of guaranteeing their fulfillment.

The DCG also states that a demagogic attitude is being maintained regarding the problem by trying to hide the reality we are facing. An objective attitude must be adopted to permit a definite solution to this dispute and to promote between the new nation and our country an adequate relationship of friendship and solidarity, the party said.

The DCG said that the debate on the Belize issue should be broad in order to provide the people with information and to make known our position in the face of history. It said the debate should be held in a national constituent assembly as the constitution establishes. The DCG said that the Belize issue should be viewed from the standpoint of the interest of Guatemala and the Guatemalans. The issue of Belize should lead to reflection on the mistakes of the past and a concern for the immediate future.

For its part, the MLN said through its spokesmen last night that the agreements on Belize are contemptible, unacceptable and worthy of repudiation. The MLN also demanded that they should be submitted to the people through the direct method of a plebiscite because a few people should not give away what belongs to all.

The MLN met for 6 hours to discuss its position on Belize. It demanded a different position on the issue because land that belongs to us should not be ceded.

The congress of the republic has yet to receive any official notification regarding the negotiations on the Belize problem, said Jose Trinidad Ucles Ramirez, acting president of congress. The official said that they were waiting for events to develop and that the deputies are analyzing the document personally, bearing in mind that congress is a political body.

Meanwhile, other political organizations said that they will issue their opinion this week on the document released by the government. Some deputies have said that if the people are polled through a plebiscite to see what they want regarding the issue of Belize, the national congress might be left out of the discussion.

Private Sector Participation

PA191409 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The Chambers of Industries, Commerce and Agriculture and other sectors of private enterprise will participate in studies and analyses of the bases of understanding over the Belize conflict. The government of the republic will include the chambers which represent the Guatemalan private sector in the work that will be carried out for the study analysis and consideration of the bases of understanding signed among the United Kingdom, Guatemala and Belize aimed at definitely solving the controversy and the status quo of the Belizean territory.

The participation of the private sector is viewed as very important and it is felt that this sector will make valuable contributions to the agreements which will have to be drafted by the three parties in order to conclude the negotiation.

GOVERNMENT SURPRISED BY HONDURAN CLAIM TO CAYS

PA191607 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The foreign minister said last night that he did not have any official notification on the Honduran position regarding the Zapotillo Cays which according to the bases of understanding for the Belizean independence, belong to Guatemala. It was said that no note has been received on the Honduran position although it was noted that this unexpected petition by the Honduran Government has caused surprise.

According to international reports, a Guatemalan delegation which was in Honduras yesterday was caught by surprise when it received a note from Foreign Secretary Elvir Sierra saying that the Zapotillo Cays belong to Honduras. Similar notes have been sent to the United Kingdom and Belize.

ARMY REPORTS CLASH WITH GUERRILLAS IN QUICHE

PA191853 Guatemala City Radio Neuvo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Army public relations office has issued the following report:

Yesterday at 2100 near (Macaloahua) Village, approximately 6 km from the municipal road of [name indistinct], Quiche Department, a subversive group's attack on a military patrol was repelled. Two members of the subversive group were killed (?when it attacked) the patrol. There were no deaths or wounded among the members of the military personnel.

The combing operation that was begun immediately after the attack led to the discovery of knapsacks with clothing, food, medicine, ammunition and communist propaganda pamphlets.

The military patrols are maintaining constant vigilance and control in the aforementioned area as a result of the demands of the residents, particularly those of the rural areas, where groups of subversive criminals are causing problems to the residents and their properties.

EGP NOTES DETERIORATING ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA181850 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala's People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] has stated that Guatemala's economic, political and social situation is rapidly deteriorating and that the rich get richer while the poor get poorer.

In a communique issued in Mexico City, the Guatemalan guerrilla organization indicated that in 1980 half of the Guatemalan population earned only 5 percent of the national income while 2 years ago, it earned 7 percent. The communique added that according to estimates of various economists, a Guatemalan needs 68 cents to cover the minimum cost of his daily food, but 52 percent of the Guatemalan people don't have that amount.

The EGP communique added that even though a small percentage of the Guatemalan population has the aforementioned sum to feed themselves they cannot cover other essential needs such as housing, clothing and medicines.

GOVERNMENT PROMISES PROTECTION TO LITERACY WORKERS

PA172310 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The education minister has informed teachers involved in the national literacy campaign that the government has decided to use the security forces, if necessary, to protect teachers, administrative personnel and members of the literacy delegations in general, and particularly those who are working in those sectors where the national literacy efforts are being harassed.

The minister noted that groups opposed to the government are trying to hinder the effort and to harm the illiterate people who have only now been given the opportunity to learn to read and write without cost.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS SOVEREIGNTY OVER ZAPOTILLO CAYS

PA191603 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1740 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 18 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Foreign Secretariat today reported that it will claim territorial rights over the Zapotillo Cays which are included as part of the agreement between the United Kingdom and Guatemala on the independence for Belize.

A Guatemalan mission headed by Manuel Eduardo Rodriguez, in charge of the office for Belizean affairs, arrived in Honduras to inform local authorities about the content of the agreement prior to the signing of a treaty between the United Kingdom and Guatemala over the Belizean territory.

The 16-point agreement which the Guatemalans explained to Honduran Foreign Secretary Col Cesar Elvir Sierra states in point number three: "Guatemala will have use and benefit of the Ranguana and Zapotillo Cays and rights in those areas adjacent to the cays as agreed upon."

After learning about the document, the foreign secretary convoked an urgent meeting of the Commission for Territorial Studies at his ministry so that this commission could give its opinion on the matter.

The commission decided that "Honduras must send a statement to the Governments of the United Kingdom, Guatemala and Belize to place the Honduran rights over Zapotillo Cays on the record."

The Guatemalan delegation subsequently met with the Honduran Commission for Territorial Studies but none of its members would comment on the topics discussed.

A member of the Honduran commission explained that "nobody should dispose of the rights of a third party. This is a basic principle and according to it, Honduras should have been consulted by the other states before they went on to distribute a territory which does not belong to them."

In article seven, the Honduran constitution states that the Zapotillo and Cochinos Cays belong to Honduras.

Col Francisco Castellanos Gongora, a member of the Guatemalan delegation, said that "he was surprised by the Honduran claim and that we would duly report this to our government."

COSTA RICAN ENVOY DEPLORES SAN JOSE BOMBING

PA190305 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Telephone interview with Costa Rican ambassador to Honduras in Tegucigalpa on 17 March--live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Yesterday when we learned of the terrorist attack against the Honduran Embassy in Costa Rica and the bazooka attack against the automobile in which U.S. Embassy security personnel were traveling, we said, knowing that Costa Rica had supported the Nicaraguan revolution, that he who sows the wind reaps the whirlwind. Well, this saying, which is very popular in Honduras, called for an explanation from the Costa Rican ambassador.

We have now on the line the Costa Rican ambassador referring to reports we have broadcast from Costa Rica and our commentary on them. Could we have your opinion, Mr Ambassador?

[Ambassador] Thank you, Antonio. My reason for calling you was to publicly state the concern and displeasure of the Costa Rican Government regarding the incidents which occurred this morning, about which your station has reported very accurately.

It is regrettable that this has occurred and that all of Latin America is going through such difficult times. As a matter of fact, regarding your commentary, you said that we are reaping what we sowed in the past. I sincerely believe, Antonio, that this is not fair to our country. You know that all of Central America confronts the danger of subversion and this danger is being felt in Costa Rica and all the other countries. Even Honduras was lucky because the police defused two bombs before they exploded. A speeding car also fired on a diplomatic mission. I believe that all these incidents are regrettable and they are caused by a terrorist offensive that we are all confronting and that all of us should unite to fight. But I do not think that it is fair to blame it on the past or present attitudes of the Costa Rican Government.

[Question] Yes, Mr Ambassador, we quoted this popular saying because we have been following events in Central America and we see that the Nicaraguan Government, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], which should be extremely grateful for all the facilities granted by the Costa Rican Government and President Carazo Odio, should be grateful for this aid. However, after analyzing the Central American reports during the past months, we have seen that there have been abuses committed by irresponsible members of the FSLN who have even violated Costa Rican territory and arrested Costa Rican citizens. We quoted the popular saying because there is a certain international resentment about all the aid that the Costa Rican Government has given to the FSLN. We understand that President Carazo Odio thought he was contributing to the overthrow of a shameful dictatorship but he did not think at that time that he was helping to install another dictatorship which is perhaps worse than the last.

This is why we quoted the popular saying "he who sows the wind reaps the whirlwind." However, we did it without the slightest intention of offending the dignity of the Costa Rican people and much less that of its president because we are aware that he did everything possible to aid the Sandinist Front because the Somoza regime had to be ousted from Nicaragua. Naturally, no one in Costa Rica, Honduras or Latin America thought that the Nicaraguans were going from bad to worse.

Therefore, Mr Ambassador, our intentions were not bad and, like you, we hope that violence in Central America is eradicated and that the great silent majorities in Central America lift their voices against these terrorist activities that are endangering the Costa Ricans who have traditionally given evidence of great civic awareness.

[Answer] Thank you, Antonio. I am grateful for your ideas, and I do not feel offended. I only wanted to make this brief comment. I also wanted to say, regarding the Nicaraguan case, that the Costa Rican people supported the Nicaraguan people and not any specific group. We supported the people and on several occasions Costa Rica has expressed its faith in the courageous Nicaraguan people, who are our brothers. We believe that these people will find the best path to their well-being.

CONGRESSMAN LONG STRESSES IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PA191725 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The Honduran Government has implemented a number of public-oriented reforms to forestall problems like those which are occurring in other countries, Clarence Dickinson Long, U.S. senator [as heard] from Maryland, said here after a meeting at the presidential palace with President Policarpo Paz Garica.

The official also said that the reason for his visit to Honduras is his personal interest in promoting the economic development of this country, particularly in expediting programs for peasant groups.

The senator said he will make Honduras a model of development for the other countries of the region by expediting peasant programs--providing financing, tools and farming methods to allow the peasants to improve production.

Long said that aid to peasants is limited and that henceforth he will review these programs himself. That was my most urgent reason for coming to Honduras, he emphasized.

Regarding the economic and political situation existing in Honduras, the visitor said that Honduras undoubtedly looks much better than neighboring countries. It seems to me, he said that it is one nation whose government has acted to forestall situations like those which prevail in neighboring states. I believe that I see here a government that lends itself to change, he said.

The senator from Maryland said in conlusion that in Honduras there is better judgment, especially at the top echelons of government, where there is a president who is aware of the problems that he must act to forestall the problems that afflict Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

PDCH REPORTEDLY PRESSURED TO SUPPORT DUARTE REGIME

PA181814 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] A Honduran Christian Democratic Party [PDCH] leader has confirmed that they are being pressured to support Jose Napoleon Duarte and the Salvadoran Government. This leaves other PDCH leaders who have tried to deny this in bad shape. PDCH secretary of records Villanueva Chinchilla told this yesterday to the newspaper EL HERALDO.

According to Villanueva Chinchilla, the directorate of the Christian Democratic Organization of the Americas, whose president is Jose Napoleon Duarte, has sought to obtain all the necessary support for the current Salvadoran Government and the PDCH's neutral position has displeased it.

Villanueva Chinchilla's statement has cast a bad light on a number of other party leaders who have said the very opposite.

If these contradictions continue, we will eventually witness small dissident movements within the PDCH, as is the case with our country's larger parties.

We think the PDCH should say officially whether or not it is being pressured into supporting Jose Napoleon Duarte in El Salvador.

BANKER'S KIDNAPPING ALLEGEDLY WORK OF FMLN

PA191851 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Excerpts] The newspaper LA PRENSA of San Pedro Sula has reported that Paul Vinelli was kidnapped by Salvadoran guerrillas with the help of some leftist elements in Honduras.

Here is the LA PRENSA report carried by Radio San Pedro. Go ahead, Radio San Pedro:

Attention. Salvadoran terrorists planned and carried out the kidnapping of Doctor Vinelli. Members of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] organized the criminal operation. There is a well-founded suspicion that Honduran extremists cooperated in this crime. Otherwise, how could the foreigners have moved about so efficiently in a country they did not know well enough?

The kidnapping of Paul Vinelli, the Italian-American-Hondruan banker, was an unprecedented event in Honduras and widely differing versions circulated about it.

Vinelli is now in the United States and it is not known if he will return to his adopted fatherland because the trauma from which he is suffering is very heavy and the menace of a new kidnapping hovers over his head [word indistinct] because the FMLN, which is regarded as the cruellest of all the so-called liberation fronts, is unforgiving.

SQUATTERS TO BE FINED; SOME PROMOTING ANARCHY

PA141442 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Carlos Matute Rivera report]

[Excerpt] Squatters are going to be fined by the Central District Metropolitan Council. The law is clear. Any person who occupies a plot of land, with or without title to it, will have to pay a contribution for improvements in proportion to the size of the plot they have occupied.

On this matter, La Voz de Honduras interviewed Ruben Cepeda Gutierrez, a lawyer, who is a member of the Central District Metropolitan Council.

[Begin recording] [Question] What can you tell us on the subject?

[Answer] The issue of the occupation of plots of land by illegal means is being investigated by the Metropolitan Council from three viewpoints. The first and most important project is to analyze and investigate the matter in some depth in order to determine whether the persons involved really need housing. I should make the point that the Central District is not planning to or even considering the idea of building housing because that is not within its financial capabilities, but it would cede the plots and provide whatever measures and infrastructure it can, allowing other organizations to carry out the housing programs.

Another aspect being considered is that there are citizens who have made squatting a personal business. The third aspect that should not be ignored is that we have to indicate which persons do this for political motives in order to sow a climate of anarchy in the country. [end recording]

Evictions Accomplished

PA181845 Tegucigalpa Voz de Hondruas in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] A report on page 10 of the newspaper EL TIEMPO says that municipal Mayor (Roland) Valenzuela Hoyeula explained yesterday that the municipality has had nothing to do with the eviction of more than 500 families last Monday from private urban lots located in the (Butadesala) and Los Angeles residential districts, in the southwestern part of the city.

According to the mayor, the eviction, the result of a judicial order issued by a lower criminal court, was executed by the public security forces, which handle these cases.

According to the official, either there has been a mistake or somebody wants to interpret things his own way. The municipality has merely offered an alternative to those who were evicted so that instead of being left out in the street they can move to public lots.

Valenzuela denied the evicted families' allegation that the land that is being offered to them is already occupied and he explained that many of these lots have actually been unused for over 1 year. What happens, he went on, is that many of those to whom these lots were given simply put a fence around them and live downtown, which means they do not need these lots.

According to him, it has been learned that many of those protesting already have land in Chemelecon, the Suyapa residential district and other places, and that they are simply taking advantage of the peasants' needs.

ELECTORAL COURT EXTENDS VOTER REGISTRATION

PA191931 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Apparent text of 19 March LA TRIBUNA report]

[Text] The National Electoral Court [TNE] yesterday decided to extend the period for electoral registration until 15 April in order to allow the largest possible number of Hondurans to go to the polls. The decision will be officially announced today by the members of the court, in which the four legally recognized political parties are represented.

The decision was adopted after protracted meetings between TNE Chairman Ubodoro Arriaga Iraeta and Orlando Ibiarte of the Christian Democratic Party, Lucas Araya Lozano of the National Party, Neftali Montero of the Liberal Party and Jose Antonio Suazo of the Innovation and Unity Party.

It was reported that the decision stems from the fact that the number of citizens applying for electoral identity cards has increased in the last few days and it would have been virtually impossible to process all applications before the expiration of the legal deadline on 20 March.

LIBERAL LEANINGS OF PARTY LEADER QUESTIONED

PA181817 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] As we have already announced, Jorge Arturo Reina [leader of the Popular Liberal Alliance faction of the Liberal Party] attended the meeting that the social democrats held last week in Panama. In the wake of his presence at the international meeting held by that political transnational, social democracy, many followers of Rodism and Suazo Cordovism [reference to Roberto Suazo Cordova, leader of the Rodist faction of the Liberal Party] are wondering if Reina is a liberal or the representative of that political transnational, social democracy, in Honduras.

The young leader, whose liberal leanings are now being questioned, has the floor.

NICARAGUA

ROBELO VIEWS RECENT HISTORY, HOPES FOR CIVIC SOLUTION

PY182000 ABC COLOR in Spanish 12 Mar 81 pp 8, 9

[Interview granted by Alfonso Robelo, former member of the National Reconstruction Government junta, to ABC reporter Francisco Talavera in Managua, Nicaragua, in February 1981]

[Text] [Question] What was the cause of your withdrawal from the National Reconstruction Government junta?

[Answer] I withdrew from the government junta on 22 April 1980 after very serious disagreements with the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. If I were to summarize the reasons for my withdrawal I would say that it happened because the Sandinist Front, because it had the arms, imposed some Marxist-Leninist deviations on the original government program of the Nicaraguan revolution. This program had been the basis of unity of all the forces which struggled against Somoza.

These deviations mainly appeared when the Sandinist Front mistook the interests of the reconstruction government for its partisan and ideological interests, which compelled me to take measures within the junta to protest what was happening. Later on, the situation reached its climax when the structure of the State Council was modified. The original membership--33 members, of whom 12 represented the Sandinist Front--was increased to 47, of whom 24, a majority, represented the Sandinist Front.

[Question] And did you really believe that the front would fulfill its promise?

[Answer] Yes, I honestly believed it would. Probably due to the fact that if one is struggling against a dictator like Somoza, one does not try to seek the guarantees one would seek in a trade agreement, for example. And the fact that countries such as Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and Mexico gave us ample gestures of internal solidarity gave us certain guarantees. I definitely believed that it could have been fulfilled.

Naturally, if I were to review the movie and play the same role over I would be much more cautious and would request firmer guarantees, to avoid being deceived again.

[Question] Did you join the government junta as an individual or as a representative of a certain sector?

[Answer] When I was requested to join the government junta I did so as an individual, but obviously one cannot avoid a certain representativity. My career, basically, has been that of a businessman. I was president of the Chamber of Industries for 3 years, head the Nicaraguan Development Institute and president of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP), for 2 years--the COSEP is the main organization of the private sector--until the death, the brutal murder, of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro forced me to fully attend to the political issues.

Up to a certain point I thus represented two sectors: On one hand I represented the private enterprise sector and on the other the sector of political parties which were not engaged with the Somoza regime or with the Sandinist Front.

[Question] Were you and the sectors you represented aware that the leaders of the Sandinist Front were Marxists?

[Answer] I knew that there were Marxists within the Sandinist Front. I was not aware that there was complete Marxist-Leninist control. This is something I realized gradually, as I became acquainted with them. Above all, I was not aware of the enormous influence--and it was almost authority, I would say--that dictator Fidel Castro has over them. Yes, that was something I was completely unaware of.

Now, taking advantage of your question, it would be well worth while going into a bit more detail by stating that there is complete Marxist-Leninist control within the National Directorate of the Sandinist Front. Each and every one of the nine members of the FSLN's leadership is a Marxist-Leninist.

Now then, the Sandinist Front rank and file, the members and supporters of the Sandinist Front, form a very heterogeneous mass, among which there are people without any type of ideology. There are others who are not Marxists whom I would term Social Democrats and Christian revolutionaries. This is what makes the structure of the Sandinist Front so unique and allows a certain latitude of action, even within the party itself.

[Question] We could probably mention Commander Cero (Eden Pastora) among the middle-of-the-road leaders who are not Marxist-Leninist followers.

[Answer] Commander Pastora seemed a very democratic person. However, he has adjusted to the guidelines of the National Directorate.

[Question] He talks a lot about the proletariat, the peasant sector and the...

[Answer] Well, I believe that up to a certain point he is defending his position very well.

[Question] What made you decide to become a member of the coalition that was created for the struggle against Somoza? How was it created, and how did the Sandinist Front take it over afterward?

[Answer] I had been actively participating in Nicaraguan politics due to the murder of Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, which was a great shock for all the whole country and which made many of us decide to fully participate in politics. I actively participated in the strikes, in which the private business sector had a decisive role--the general strikes of January, February and September 1978 and of June 1979 at the time of the final uprising.

That is why I was called—I believe that I am now answering a previous question—to become a member of the government junta. They knew that I had an impeccable reputation within the private sector and also within those forces that made up the broad opposition force.

I do not know whether these details will be of any interest, but they are as follows: While I was in Costa Rica--this was after I had spent some time in jail in Nicaragua during the Somoza regime--I was invited to join. Of course I established some conditions. One of them was that I would be able to make a complete study of the government program that was to be enforced during the transition period following the Somoza dictatorship. I also made it quite clear that I was going to be a member of a national unity government having pluralist bases and also of a government junta that was to head the national government.

With time I realized that all these promises were not being kept. Instead there was a campaign of hatred, of complete control by the Sandinist Front, which because of its tremendous war potential took in its hands the revolution of the Nicaraguan people. This led to class hatred, something which is still going on. Moreover, the guidelines of the FSLN board were imposed on the junta and instead of leading the government the junta became a body in charge of enforcing guidelines issued by the FSLN board.

[Question] It was obvious that Sandinists made up the majority of the government junta, since during the first months of the new government the junta issued measures and decrees that were drafted and decided by the FSLN board.

[Answer] That is completely true. After a certain period we became merely a body that enforced those measures issued by the Sandinist Front. This, among other things, was precisely the reason why I resigned. There came a time when I had no choice but to withdraw from this group. What you have just said is completely true.

[Question] From the very beginning it also became quite obvious that the unconditional supporters of the Sandinist Front within the government junta somehow managed to be the ones to announce all the popular measures that the revolution was gradually enforcing. Sergio Ramirez and Daniel Ortega had a monopoly on newspaper headlines and television reports.

[Answer] That is true. It was a simple reflection of the control that the armed party, the government party, was exerting over the junta.

[Question] What were the aspirations of the non-Marxist sector that made up the coalition against Somoza? What aspects of society did they want to change?

[Answer] If I had to summarize the aspirations of not only the non-Marxist sector--which could be represented by the democratic parties, private enterprises, the independent labor sectors, the independent media sector, and the Catholic Church itself--but all Nicaraguans I would say that they wanted to make revolutionary changes that would lead to a democracy similar to that established in Costa Rica through the fastest means and in compliance with the conditions and intrinsic characteristics of Nicaragua.

Although this may have been a utopian aspiration, the Nicaraguan people wanted to have a chance to elect their government leaders through secret ballots in periodic elections. They wanted to have an honest administration and not a criminal and corrupt administration like one headed by Somoza. They wanted their country to have a nonaligned foreign policy, a foreign policy that was aligned neither with the United States--as it was in the past--nor with Cuba and the Soviet Union--as it is today. Moreover, the Nicaraguans wanted to achieve a better distribution of resources and income, as well as a better distribution of the tax burden. An honest administration could have achieved a high degree of development in Nicaragua, since it is a vast country having a small population. This would benefit the entire country and not just a small family group and their friends, as it was during the Somoza period.

[Question] These objectives could not have been achieved even if the government had changed its structure and its guidelines?

[Answer] The Somoza government?

[Question] Yes.

[Answer] It would have been completely impossible. The Somoza government was completely unsuitable. It was a corrupt, illegal government. It never held any elections. It would have been impossible to change it. Something like this was completely out of the question.

What is more, there were several opportunities to seek a political solution to the problem, but they were never taken. The Somoza administration was characterized by its arrogance, its corruption. Somoza thought he owned Nicaragua.

[Question] There was no other alternative then but to make a radical change, to turn the country upside down?

[Answer] That's right.

[Question] But in this type of situation the good and the peaceful never succeed.

[Answer] I believe we have learned the lesson and we are carrying on the struggle in Nicaragua. The final word has not yet been said on Nicaragua. Much still remains to be done. I believe it is a mistake to think that this is a lost cause. It is not.

There are very important forces engaged in the internal struggle to see that the revolution culminates in a true democracy. These forces should not be overlooked. There are still active democratic parties, independent labor unions, the Catholic Church and all Christian churches in general, which also maintain an independent stand. In sum, one cannot look down at all these forces.

[Question] Do you mean that if Marxism seeks to take control of Nicaragua it still has to struggle very hard?

[Answer] Yes. Marxism is still not consolidated in Nicaragua. The Marxists have been unmasked sooner than they expected. I believe this is important, and I feel I have personally contributed to their unmasking.

That is, if we drew a parallel between the Cuban and the Nicaraguan process, we will find that while Cuba has a healthy economy which is working, Nicaragua's economy was destroyed by a war, looted by Somoza and mortgaged to international creditors. While in Cuba Fidel Castro is not only able to deceive all Cubans but the entire world, power is quite diffused in Nicaragua, which lacks a leader, even a collective leadership. I believe these are very important elements.

While a massive emigration has taken place in Cuba, and although some have also emigrated from Nicaragua, a large sector of the Nicaraguan population has stayed in the country to fight the communist imposition. The entire population has not left the country. Many of us have stayed here to engage in the internal struggle.

To conclude our parallel with Cuba, we should note that Cuba found a godfather who was willing to finance its Marxist-Leninist experiments: the Soviet Union. But in 1956 the Soviet Union wanted to have their first communist enclave in the hemisphere and was willing to pay for it. Today, when the leaders of the Sandinist Front went to knock Moscow's door, they found that Moscow now has other, worse problems. Financing the first enclave is not the same as financing the second. So they have found that now they cannot count on broad financing to carry out their communist experiment. This is another difference.

[Question] So, in your opinion, the last word has not yet been spoken on Nicaragua. It is still possible to achieve the original objectives of the Nicaraguan revolution.

[Answer] That is why we are here.

[Question] To open a business under Somoza, did you have to necessarily be a friend of the regime? Could you freely set up any enterprise?

[Answer] In some areas, yes; in other areas, no. There was some freedom of action for the private sector in some areas. One could sow cotton in Nicaragua despite being an opponent of the regime; one could have coffee plantations or own a ranch despite being an opponent of the regime. One could even undertake industrial or business activities despite being an opponent of the regime.

Pedro Joaquin Chamorro himself, who suffered a brutal death at the hands of people linked with the Somoza regime, was a fighter who spoke with utmost clarity. Of course, he had to experience long periods of press censorship and complete gagging of the freedom of expression.

I would say in general terms that there was an authoritarian but not totalitarian regime which allowed a certain degree of freedom to carry out activities in Nicaragua. Despite being a dictatorship, the Somoza regime, maintained a situation which gave the country a certain international image, some degree of acceptability which enabled it to have access to foreign financing.

For instance, I am an engineer who settled here, who set up an agroindustrial plant in which Somoza had not a single penny, but I succeeded. Thus one could openly oppose Somoza but obviously without reaching the point of rising in arms against him.

[Question] Could one open a newspaper or a radio station without being a friend of the regime?

[Answer] I told you of the case of LA PRENSA, which survived. It was also possible to set up radio stations, but there were greater difficulties, because a government office was charged with assigning frequencies, and to obtain a frequency one needed to be in a certain alignment with the regime. The newspapers circulated freely.

[Question] To a certain extent the middle class lived in tranquilllity. What caused it to rise against Somoza?

[Answer] The corruption of the Somoza regime was increasingly forcing a decline in the standard of living of the Nicaraguan people. Because the regime was insatiable, it looted and mortgaged the country, which was being continually ripped off. Thus we began to lag behind the other Central American countries.

The middle class was increasingly enduring this situation. The middle class was possibly suffering most from this situation. If I had to state a reason for the sudden change of the middle class, I would have to say that it was the murder of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. I believe his death convinced us that the only alternative was to undertake a violent struggle against Somoza, that his regime was hopeless, that it had become an affront to the Nicaraguan reality, that the situation inevitably called for a change.

Pedro Joaquin Chamorro represented the conscience of the Nicaraguan people, and when one's conscience is killed, the rest of the body reacts in protest.

[Question] How did the Somoza regime impoverish the middle class?

[Answer] By keeping a corrupt administration whose only concern was stealing, I would say that the entire public treasury was set up to enrich Somoza and his friends, basically to the detriment of the middle class.

This process coincided with the world inflation created by the increase in oil prices, a situation which took Nicaragua by surprise at a critical time after the 1972 Managua earthquake.

Then we had a mixed situation involving the earthquake in the capital, the 1973 world inflation and the dictatorship's voracity and corruption, a situation in which the country failed to progress, failed to distribute progress among its citizens; and the most affected were the members of the middle class. Therefore, the murder of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro lit the spark which made the entire Nicaraguan people revolt.

[Question] How did the public services work? Were public utility rates the same for everyone?

[Answer] Electricity, water and telephones were very expensive. The Nicaraguan people had to use 30 percent of their income just to pay for public transportation, electricity and water.

On the other hand, the people close to the regime did not pay these utilities. Besides not paying utilities, they built many houses with the financing from the housing bank and did not repay the financing. These things created a great burden on the national economy. This was not a case of special rates; the fact is that they did not pay them.

Somoza's friends did not pay electricity, water and telephone bills, and they had great fringe benefits in the housing bank and the development and production banks.

[Question] What about taxes?

[Answer] Taxes were also not paid. The tax contribution of Somoza and his friends was practically zero. The state's income was mainly direct taxes or sales taxes. These were the public treasury's main income.

[Question] Were public officials independent from politics?

[Answer] No. They had to be a member of the government party. This was a sine qua non. The Conservative Party carried out a very submissive opposition and held some unimportant posts within the government. The strategic positions were manned by people who completely supported Somoza.

[Question] Were the political parties representatives of the people or just created by Somoza's regime to keep up appearances?

[Answer] In the 45 years of dictatorship, there were some political parties which genuinely fought against Somoza. The first one was a splinter group of the Somoza party which took the name of Independent Liberal Party. The Conservative Party itself mounted real opposition to the Somoza regime on several occasions.

The Christian Socialist Party also played an important opposition role in the last 20 years of the dictatorship. The Socialist Party and the Communist Party also opposed Somoza from underground.

As a result of the murder of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro--excuse me for going back to this because it is a cornerstone in the history of the struggle against Somoza--Nicaraguans who were indifferent to the struggle against the dictatorship took greater participation in it and a series of organizations--some openly political and others of a union nature--were created to oppose Somoza.

For example, the private sector, through the union chambers, played an important role. This is when I founded the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement. This is when greater cohesion among the forces which really opposed the regime was achieved.

I would be lying if I did not mention that at the same time the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) was also fighting. The FSLN fought against the Somoza dictatorship for 18 years without much success, because it was fighting in the mountains. It fought heroically but with very little possibility of success. It was only toward the end of the struggle, when the death of Pedro Joaquin created a national awareness, that the FSLN took the leadership in the political struggle.

[Question] Were these political parties legally recognized?

[Answer] The only legally recognized political party was the Conservative Party, which was Somoza's official opposition.

[Question] How did Somoza's regime let these so-called illegal parties operate in such a decisive manner? Had the government lost its power or authority?

[Answer] The regime had lost its strength little by little. It had lost popular support and legitimacy.

These illegal parties operated de facto, and Somoza was unable to prevent this because--and we have not mentioned this before but it is very important--he was being isolated at the international level. The international solidarity of the governments of the area and the hemisphere in general was gradually withdrawn and the regime was isolated.

Starting with the Carter administration, and even a little earlier under Ford, the United States experienced a change of attitude toward Somoza, being a friend of Somoza was getting to be a heavy burden for the United States, and Carter's human rights policy had a great impact on Nicaragua.

All this gave rise to conditions which forced the tyrant to accept as lesser evils the activities of these political forces that I have mentioned.

[Question] And what about the unions? How were they being handled?

[Answer] There was a general labor confederation which was progovernment and had access to the Labor Ministry and other facilities and was totally under Somoza's thumb. I would say that the business organizations were a little more independent, especially in the final stage, about the last 20 years.

[Question] And what about the judicial branch?

[Answer] Very neglected, very oppressed, because Somoza appointed the judges and dismissed them if they did not bow to his will.

[Question] Were the members of the National Guard part of the privileged groups?

[Answer] They were military men who knew well enough that they were joining an army owned by a family, a pretorian guard. Thus from their very graduation from the military academy, they knew that their careers would be in an army which blindly obeyed the will of the dictator.

[Question] What privileges did they have?

[Answer] They were constantly given the right to import vehicles free of customs duties. They had loans to build houses, loans for business purposes and others--which in most cases were never paid back.

Perhaps it is worthwhile mentioning that, exhibiting a devilish ability, Somoza kept the salaries of the military men very low, forcing them to resort to corruption. Thus the generals had a ridiculously low salary, maybe $250 per month, which forced them to engage in all sorts of illegal deals.

[Question] Did social security take care of all the people under it on an equal footing, or did it give preferential treatment to those who supported the regime?

[Answer] Social security offered only partial coverage. It only served Managua and a few other large cities of the country. It provided no general coverage. In addition, its coverage was very, very defective. However, I must honestly say that there was no favoritism in social security. They did not go that far. The thing was that it gave very deficient and partial services to the workers and employees under it.

[Question] Did Sandinism take advantage of these shortcomings and defects of Somoza's regime?

[Answer] Certain similarities between Somoza's regime and the Sandinist regime are beginning to show, not only because the one resorted and the other is resorting to force to remain in power, but also because a series of privileges have been maintained.

Somoza's oligarchy has been replaced by a Sandinist oligarchy which is endowed with these privileges. Government jobs are given only to people who are ideologically and politically aligned with the Sandinist Front. The country is suffering a number of shortcomings and outrages which they experienced under Somoza and which are now being repeated under the government of the Sandinist Front.

Thus whatever Sandinism and the revolution in general used against Somoza is in many cases taking place again. This has led to the enormous decline in popular support which the Sandinist Front is experiencing currently and this, undoubtedly, has undermine it incredibly since the revolution.

[Question] And what about you? Are you being bothered?

[Answer] I am being bothered constantly through the radio and the newspapers, which carry all kinds of slander and everything else. Even the statements of the high-ranking leaders of the Sandinist Front are indirect or veiled threats. I am always under a certain amount of pressure.

However, I believe that the important thing is to pull oneself together and to be able to coexist with this pressure. So nowadays I manage to move around with a certain amount of freedom, although there are some restrictions. To mention something specific: My party has experienced attacks, and its headquarters have been destroyed. There were certain acts of vandalism which can only be termed fascist, as a result of which our headquarters and our records were destroyed, some of our furniture was burned, doors and windows were broken...

[Question] And the police did nothing?

[Answer] This was done before the eyes of and with the tolerance of the police, because a police force which calls itself Sandinist, a party police force, could hardly stop a Sandinist mob. This is where we find the contradictions and the total mixing of party interests and government interests.

We have also felt restrictions regarding demonstrations and popular meetings and have been prohibited from using news media. The television is totally out of bounds for us and in the hands of the Sandinist Front.

Therefore, you could say that there are certain restrictions, but we still have some room to maneuver.

[Question] What is the current status of the political parties?

[Answer] Among the parties which one could describe as unaligned with the Sandinist Front is the Social Christian Party which, as you can see by its name, is of Christian-Democratic leaning and has popular and international support. There is also the Social Democratic Party, which was organized about 1 and 1/2 years ago, which is a young party with a great deal of trust.

There is the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement of which I am the leader. This party was founded 3 years ago and it is, most probably, the strongest group within the opposition to the Sandinist Front in Nicaragua. This party's ideology is also social democratic. We also have the Democratic Conservative Party, which is the purest branch of Nicaragua's traditional opposition party to Somoza's regime.

Two parties are alligned with the Sandinist Front, although they have not been totally absorbed. One is the Liberal Independent Party, which is a splinter group of Somoza's Liberal Party. Now it is an ally of the Sandinist Front.

There is also the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, of Marxist-Leninist leanings, which is also aligned with the Sandinist Front.

Aside from these, there are small groups like the Communist Party, which is a Marxist-Leninist splinter group with a very sectarian interpretation of Marxism-Leninism.

[Question] Dr Cordova Rivas, a member of the government junta, belongs to the Democratic Conservative Party. Did he join the junta on his own?

[Answer] This is one of the contradictions. He joined the government junta on his own and, I would say, under constant criticism from the Sandinist Front, which puts him in a very uncomfortable position, in my view.

[Question] Do you believe that the current situation will have a peaceful outcome?

[Answer] I believe in the Nicaraguan people who know how to straighten a leader and make him understand. As to what the outcome will be? Will there be violence again in Nicaragua? I personally favor the civic approach, and that is the way I want to stay, because I believe that that is where I can play a role, where my party can play an important role.

Besides, I do not believe that the Nicaraguan people want any more violence. Therefore, I refuse to believe that we will have to resort to violence again. I feel that for the time being there are still some channels for civic pressure which can straighten out this country.

Most of all, I tend to see my approach as realistic, because I see the reactions of the Nicaraguan people, who refuse to admit that after having defeated a family dictatorship they will fall under the dictatorship of an ideology, a party.

I believe that through a variety of signs the people will point out the right path which should be followed to resolve this situation, and I would not like to be too hasty and say that the only way out is violence.

I feel that here in Nicaragua we can still hope for civic solutions, though I have to accept the fact that this channel has been narrowing lately, as the Sandinist Front has approached absolute power based on the force of the arms.

HAIG'S WARNING MESSAGE TO CONGRESS ANALYZED

PA191647 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Although the deterioration of capitalism and its higher stage, imperialism, is already evident throughout the world, this morning we will reproduce statements by the U.S. Secretary of State, Gen Alexander Haig, in which he, as popularly depicted, bells the cat.

In an EFE dispatch datelined Washington yesterday, Alexander Haig is reported as telling the House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs Committee that the latest Soviet objective is the domination of Central America. The report, titled "USSR Wants To Seize Central America" contains a number of absurd statements, such as those of the demagogic and false policy on human rights proclaimed by Yankee imperialism.

Let us expand on this. As you know, throughout its existence, imperialism has practiced a general strategy to maintain its influence and domination over our people. Such has been the case of Nicaragua during the past year, Cuba for the last 23 years, Grenada for the last 2 years, and other cases.

Since the victory of our Sandinist popular revolution, the U.S. administration has seen the loss of a section of its Latin American backyard. The heroic struggle of the Salvadoran people has made the situation become more critical. This has prompted the imperialists to invent a number of arguments to disguise their policy of pillage, domination and exploitation.

The latest of these inventions is the term "international terrorism" for all national liberation movements, by virtue of which they launch into intervention campaigns, forgetting the Vietnam experience.

Yesterday, Haig said in Washington that El Salvador is not the only Soviet objective in Central America. We are facing, he said, a four-stage operation, the first of which has already been achieved: the seizure of Nicaragua. Later, it will be El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. These are actual statements quoted in the dispatch.

Asked if his appraisal is part of the new domino theory, Haig said not necessarily; that he would describe them as a list of priority objectives. He told the committee that if the United States does not try to stop today what he described as terrorism, sponsored by the Soviet Union, tomorrow we will find it within our own borders.

Let us hope so. This statement permits us to see the snarl in imperialism's own web. What they describe as terrorism should be understood by Nicaraguans and all the world's revolutionary movements as national liberation struggles.

The position of the spokesman of the Reagan policy is so absurd that to us Nicaraguans--more than anyone else in Central America--the claim that the Soviet Union wants to seize Central America is an indication of total schizophrenia. According to the imperialist strategists, our free Nicaragua has already been seized. The worst of this policy of lies and slander is that whoever hears Haig, not knowing Nicaragua, could well believe that Soviet troops are already stationed in our country.

No wonder this heroic people of Sandino reject such claims. No wonder they condemn them as slander against our people and our sovereignty. Nicaragua shall never deny the new strong bonds of friendship with the Soviet Union. We shall never deny our lasting fraternity with the Cuban people. Nor shall we deny our hopes for the long-suffering people of El Salvador to achieve their definite liberation as soon as possible.

Our people know, however, that the heirs of the traitors Moncada and Diaz still continue in this country, following the line of our oppressors and exploiters, reflected in the position of Alexander Haig today. These are, precisely, the supporters of the Robelos, the MDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Movement], the prehistoric conservatives, the social democrats and the rest of the counterrevolutionary political fauna. The same positions and interests of Minister Haig are defended today by that capitalist who refuses to admit the reality of our revolution and to join in the national reconstruction and production.

Being children of Sandino, and because we are going to defend our sovereignty and independence, we refuse to sell ourselves or surrender. The policy of truth is the policy of the revolution.

U.S. CRITICISM OF GROWING ARMY COUNTERED

PA141528 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The U.S. State Department has said that all its relations with our country are presently under study. According to EFE, the State Department has criticized the reinforcement of the Nicaraguan Army. We know to what extremes the United States can go if it carries out its plans, and that is why the slogan of the day is: Join the militias.

As if we had not had enough centuries of domination and intervention, the imperialists, through their State Department, said yesterday that Nicaragua's decision to increase its army to 50,000 soldiers contributes to instability in Central America.

EFE quotes the Reagan administration as saying: We are concerned over that decision. An army of 50,000 soldiers seems excessive to us. We see no reason for it, State Department spokesman William Dyess said. Never in its history has Nicaragua had such a large army. This is a factor that contributes to the instability of the Central American region, the State Department spokesman said.

Such a position, when they are intervening directly in El Salvador, can only make us think that we are facing the madness that comes from warmongering and intervention.

JUNTA MEMBER GIVES DEFENSE SPENDING TOP PRIORITY

PA191925 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] At a news conference with local and foreign newsmen, junta member Rafael Cordova Rivas said: Defense is a priority in our country and we will spare no funds for it.

[Begin recording] There are two things which have priority in this country: first, the country's defense; and second, the country's production. Regarding the first priority, we give it all the importance it has. We cannot remain with our arms crossed in the face of aggressions which [words indistinct] changing weapons for more modern weapons in Central America and [words indistinct] statements that we are maintaining constant arms traffic for all the countries in Central America. Therefore, the first priority of a state is the defense of the state and we will do everything possible to maintain this priority with [words indistinct] with whatever expenditure involved.

Production is the second priority and it is precisely this production that is interrupted by foreign reaction, which produces the local reaction. [end recording]

SELA ASKED FOR AID IN OBTAINING WHEAT SUPPLIES

PA192024 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Norma Cuadra, coordinator of the Augusto Cesar Sandino Foundation, which coordinates the campaign entitled "Bread for Nicaragua," reported at noon today on progress so far to buy wheat and provide bread with dignity in the land of Sandino.

The Latin American Economic System [SELA] is lending its full support to the procurement of wheat for making bread, although the amount obtainable has not been revealed. We know that telegrams have been sent to the SELA foreign ministers.

Norma Cuadra expands on the information in a telephoned report:

[Begin recording] In the first place, we already have a document on the aggressive campaign of imperialism which is being released to the world. In addition, we have received specific replies from SELA, which has sent telex messages to all development and foreign ministries of the Latin American countries inquiring about possibilities of contributing to or financing the purchase of wheat because of the emergency we are now facing. We have also received statements by mass organizations regarding the campaign, protesting it and making an appeal [words indistinct] regarding the aggression.

Many bakers unions, organizations in factories, cooperatives and other groups have sent messages protesting the campaign against Nicaragua.

[Announcer] Do you have any information on the amount of wheat available to SELA which can be shipped to Nicaragua?

[Cuadra] We do not yet know how much. However, they have issued an appeal and in the coming days all the SELA countries [words indistinct]. Their telegram says: At the request of humanitarian and ecclesiastical organizations and the "Bread for Nicaragua" committee, we appeal for a special contribution to finance emergency purchases to overcome the wheat shortage caused by the suspension of the aid program. We would be thankful if you would inform us of state or private organizations in your country that could respond to this request. Please advise on the availability of financial assistance for immediate wheat delivery.

This telegram was sent on 13 March to all European, U.S. and Canadian agencies to obtain their support. [end recording]

DANIEL ORTEGA INSTALLS NEW GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

PA191939 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The recently created Government Council was installed this morning with the entire cabinet in attendance--except for Commander Jaime Wheelock, presently in Cuba on an official mission as farming and livestock minister.

The council was created to eliminate unnecessary red tape in state administration.

Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the National Reconstruction Governing Junta, presided over the installation of the council and underlined the importance of starting its activities during a time when internal and external reactionaries are trying to exert due pressure on the revolutionary government.

First Session Set

PA181945 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Report by Rosario Mora of the press office of National Reconstruction Government junta--live]

[Text] The press and dissemination directorate of the National Reconstruction Government junta issues the following report:

The government council will hold its first session tomorrow. The first working session of the government council will be held tomorrow, 19 March. The government council's session will be presided over by the National Reconstruction Government junta. Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra will be the coordinator.

The government council, consultative body of the government junta, will be composed of its full members: Moises Hassan, Commander Henry Ruiz, Commander Jaime Wheelock, Federico Cerda, Carlos Coronel, Dionisio Marenco, Alfredo Cesar and Virgilio Godoy.

The Secretariat General of the National Reconstruction Government junta will function as Executive Secretariat of the government council.

CONAPRO APPOINTS REPRESENTATIVES TO STATE COUNCIL

PA191733 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations [CONAPRO], which represents the country's professionals and technicians, tonight appointed its representatives to the State Council. (Dennis Corrales) and Hugo Mejia were appointed full and alternate representatives during an assembly of CONAPRO members.

The 16 professional and technical organizations that comprise CONAPRO decided that the two professionals are fully qualified to represent all the country's professionals in the State Council, the people's council.

(Dennis Corrales), a man with a great revolutionary background, said that the professionals and technicians have the priority task of helping the country's economic independence, and they should be the servants of our people because the people are the ones who pay for the universities. He said the immediate task is to have all the professional and technical organizations join CONAPRO to defend the interests of the Sandinist people's revolution.

Hugo Mejia explained that all the views of the professionals must be democratically obtained for discussion of the bill on regulation of professions, which will be debated in the next session of the State Council.

ORTEGA BLAMES MDN 'SHOCK TROOPS' FOR VIOLENCE

PA190458 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The government junta accused Robelo sympathizers today of having created shock troops and provoked the people during Saturday's events. Government junta coordinator, Daniel Ortega, said that the shock troops of the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] took to the streets to mix with the people, to protest the destabilizing campaign waged by that party and to provoke violence in various places.

Ortega said that since the Sandinist revolutionary triumph there have been two kinds of behavior in Nicaragua: that of responsible businessmen and merchants, and that of some groups of politickers who behave as if we were in the midst of an election campaign.

The junta coordinator reminded these reactionary sectors that there was a war in Nicaragua in which 50,000 persons were killed for national liberation and that this loss of lives set a precedent in the history of world revolution. In view of the hatred promoted by the MDN, there had to be a people's reaction. The people have a perfect right to react, he said.

The junta member said that the government must once again issue a call to national unity, with the participation of all sectors determined to promote the nation's reconstruction. Those who work against it will be rejected by the people, he added.

Top MDN leader Alfonso Robelo said in Costa Rica that Saturday's events reminded him of the first days of the people's rebellion which led to the overthrow of the Somozist dictatorship.

Commenting on these statements, Ortega said that Robelo is absolutely right since this is the way the people act against those who attack the process they have won.

Finally, Ortega appealed to Nicaraguans to strengthen national unity, to increase production and to prepare for the defense of the Sandinist revolution. These last two are the priority tasks in Nicaragua today.

JUNTA MEMBER FILES SUIT AGAINST MDN LEADER

PA192211 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Excerpt] [Junta member] Rafael Cordova Rivas filed charges today against [Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN) leader] Alfonso Robelo. Cordova Rivas said that 6 months ago he asked Robelo to vacate a house owned by him but Robelo did not comply. Cordova Rivas says Robelo felt secure in a house owned by a government junta member and this is why he does not want to vacate.

Rafael Cordova Rivas arrived alone at the court. He had no legal advisors with him and was accompanied only by a bodyguard, who followed him everywhere unobstrusively.

Cordova Rivas presented his accusation in the following manner: I have been asking him to vacate my house for more than 6 months. [words indistinct] persons who arrived to attack the building. [passage indistinct] damaged the building, but I hold Robelo Callejas responsible for the damage.

MOBS ATTACK OPPOSITION SYMPATHIZERS, PREMISES

PA170402 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Excerpts] The house of Socorro Cordon in Rivas was attacked by a group of demonstrators who damaged the building. The demonstrators chanted slogans and stoned Mrs Cordon's house because she is a Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] sympathizer.

The Nicaragua Conservative Party [PCN] office in Jinotepe, opened some 5 days ago by party authorities, was destroyed by Sandinist mobs that invaded it. Police did not prevent this attack on private property because they did not even appear, thereby showing their utter comtempt for all those who are not in agreement with Sandinism.

Two bombs were thrown at the house of Eduardo Savala in Nandaime. He is a member of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua [PCD]. His home was attacked by a mob which threw a contact bomb Friday night while he was at home with his family. His home was bombed again Sunday night by unidentified persons. His family was lucky to escape uninjured.

The house of Raul Estrada, a member of the PCD council, was attacked by terrorist groups in Diriamba. Estrada was having a party at his house when the mobs entered, threatened the guests and destroyed and robbed the premises. As in other parts of the country, the police did not appear in spite of many calls for help.

Federico Duenas and his wife were machinegunned in Diriamba as they passed by in their car near a mob gathered around a bonfire. Both Duenas and his wife received bullet wounds in their legs.

Shock troops mobilized in Granada to hold hostile demonstrations and keep MDN supporters from attending Sunday's rally in Nandaime. The groups demonstrated in Granada's streets and seized Radio Amor, claiming that the radio station was in favor of reactionaries and opposed to Sandinism. The mobs also pulled down the statue of Gen Emiliano Chamorro and dragged it through the streets. All this was done in plain view of the authorities, who did nothing to prevent the outbreaks of violence.

Radio Mundial looks like the scene for a horror film. When the "Hoy" newscast reporter arrived he said that he felt he was seeing a horror film when he saw the studios. The furniture had been slashed with knives and the control room had been destroyed with all its equipment, including recorders, windows, doors, typewriters, telephones and the water cooler. This morning Radio Mundial personnel began to clean up the premises.

CDS LEADER DECRIES 'VANDALISM' BY MEMBERS

PA171959 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS] have rebuked and criticized the vandalic attitude that some elements adopted over the weekend.

The Sandinist people's organizations have condemned the activities of reaction, but there is a difference between this and the near vandalism in which some elements were engaged, said Julio Balmaceda, member of the CDS National Executive Board.

Balmaceda added that provocateurs had also directed the actions (?of) some radio stations. Here is what the CDS leader said:

[Begin recording] [Balmaceda] As is natural, the CDS have adopted an attitude of repudiation, following the impulse of the rank and file, against the divisive posture of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN], but there is quite a difference between this and any adoption by us of violent attitudes. If any provocateurs are carrying out vandalic acts against some sectors, we disapprove of this.

[Question] Companero Julio, referring specifically to the aggressions, which is the way we can describe the programs of Radio Preferida and, in my opinion, of Radio Mundial, as well as some attempts in this regard from other sources, what can the CDS Executive Board say about this to clear up the matter?

[Ansser] We think that some provocateurs were involved in a bid to discredit the CDS. This is our position in this regard.

[Question] Have these sectors been identified?

[Answer] No, not as far as we know. However, it is clear they were not CDS members, much less that they received instructions of this nature.

[Question] I would like you to give me an answer on this, Julio. The personnel of Radio Corporacion apparently identified a sector called the Marxist League as the initiator of this type of action. Do you know anything about this?

[Answer] We don't know anything in this regard. The only thing we know is that in some cases our people may have adopted attitudes bordering on violence to show their opposition to the MDN's stances. It should be noted, for instance, that Radio Corporacion engaged in provocations all day long and this may be, this is possibly the reason, why some of our companeros joined in these actions. However, we did not instruct them to do so. On the contrary, we have striven to make peace, to bring about a balanced attitude. You were witness to that. Our leaders have adopted cautious attitudes. This is an indication of the attitude of the CDS Executive Board. [end recording]

STUDENT INCIDENTS AT PRIVATE SCHOOLS BLAMED ON MDN

Radio Sandino Comment

PA180319 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Small groups of youths who are unaware of the scope and goals of the Sandinist people's revolution yesterday started causing problems at several schools. This attitude has been called irresponsible by teachers and parents, because the students are mistaken; they are fanning hatred and problems which may result in confrontations with unforeseeable results for our youth.

Our sources noted the obligation of private school principals and parents associations to stop the provocations and offenses against the Sandinist people. The Sandinist police are on the lookout and ready to maintain order throughout the country. A call for commonsense and levelheadedness has been made, because this is not the right time to undertake electioneering activities, as the army and the people are coming together to improve cotton production and thus ensure the basic pillar of the national economy.

Youths must be aware of their place and duties in the new Nicaragua and study and perform the tasks given priority by the revolutionary process and the country. They should not be swayed by agitation and provocations.

Minister Calls For Calm

PA192015 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman issued a call for calm to students and parents today. At the same time, he warned teachers about the manipulations of certain angry sectors.

[Begin Tunnerman recording] As soon as I found out that these problems had occurred at certain private schools in Managua, I sent several Education Ministry officials to participate in the talks which enabled us to overcome this crisis. In addition, I am urging the principals at these centers to not allow this again. [end recording]

Teachers Blame MDN

PA192012 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers [ANDEN] has harshly criticized violent actions being carried out by student groups manipulated by bitter members of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] over the past few days. ANDEN urged teachers and students to disregard these provocations.

PCD STATEMENT BACKS NICARAGUAN DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT

PA181857 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

[Text] On Wednesday the Democratic Conservative Party (PDC) issued the following communique:

The Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, true to its democratic principles, voices its strongest condemnation of the unspeakable abuses to which the Nicaraguan Democratic Moveement, MDN, has twice been subjected.

Such attitudes flatly deny the political pluralism and the unity required by the nation for its economic, political and social recovery.

We exhort the authorities to conduct an exhaustive investigation to establish responsibilities, in the hope that those responsible for these vandalic acts will be punished, as such actions seriously harm the nation's peace.

The inhuman attack against MDN headquarters at 1800 yesterday only reveals a moral deterioration which threatened the lives of those gathered there in exercise of their legal rights.

The Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua does not believe that the "law of terror" a certain sector is trying to impose with such uncultured acts favors either the revolution or the welfare of the country, which demands the united effort of all its people to emerge from the economic and political crisis gripping our abused country.

The image of the revolution is deteriorating daily, not only internally but externally thanks to the acquiesence of the authorities who are failing to punish those responsible for these shameful actions.

Observance of the law cannot be imposed only on certain groups: it must be observed by all alike, including those who govern and those who are governed.

Released in the city of Managua on 11 March 1981; [signed] Jose Castillo Osejo, press secretary, Democratic Conservative Party. God-Order-Justice.

WORKERS LEADER NOTES ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES

PA151500 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] Carlos Guembes, secretary general of the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers, said in response to our reporter's questions: A considerable number of workers are concerned over our people's difficult economic situation. He said that there is not enough money. He pointed out that the suspension of international credits is hitting the country hard and, to top it all off, the cotton harvest, the nation's most important, is being lost because of a manpower shortage.

Guembes said that the suspension of international credits is becoming worse, at a time when neither Cuba nor the Soviet Union are giving a single cordoba. With the exception of military affairs, these nations only sign technical and cultural agreements, he added.

He pointed out that the Nicaraguan working class thinks the policy toward the United States is what is causing the present situation.

He said that the Nicaraguan working class knows it must make sacrifices and work for its country, but that it must also be heard at moments such as this.

Guembes pointed out that at the same time the nation is making huge efforts to emerge from the economic mire, it is also training an army which is now the largest in the area. This army is being armed by countries outside the continent, he said, but did not say which ones. According to the newspapers, the training is daily and very intensive.

Returning to the economic cri is, he said that it may become almost unbearable in the next few months.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF ORTEGA, DELEGATION TO KAMPUCHEA

For reportage on the "official friendly visit" of Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega and his delegation to Kampuchea, see the Kampuchea section of the 17 March and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA--The Foreign Ministry has confirmed the appointment of Nicaragua's new ambassador to Costa Rica. He is Roberto Leal, who has already obtained the placet of the Costa Rican Government. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 81 PA]

DEBT RENEGOTIATION WITH SPAIN--During a news conference, with the Spanish Ambassador to Nicaragua in attendance, junta coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega today reported on the conclusion of the renegotiation of our country's debt with Spain. The amount renegotiated totals $62 million, which will be defrayed at a yearly interet rate of 7.5 percent in 7 years and with 6 years' grace. Spain donated 53 percent of the interest outstanding to our country. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Mar 81 PA]

CUSTOMS DIRECTORATE APPOINTMENTS--The Finance Ministry yesterday reported that due to administrative reorganization in the Finance Ministry, Guerrilla Commander Ramon Cabrales has been appointed director general of customs and Companero Porfirio J. Gomez has been appointed executive director general of customs. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Mar 81 PA]

FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE ON PROBLEM WITH PORTUGAL

FL200247 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0155 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Cuban Foreign Ministry note read by television staff announcer Manolo Ortega at conclusion of television broadcast of press conference with three persons involved in occupation of Ecuadorean Embassy]

[Text] On 17 March, the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Cuba was forced to reject a note of the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Portugal which contained unacceptable insults of the vice minister of foreign relations, Comrade Ricardo Alarcon, originated by the inevitable public denunciation which the Government of Cuba was forced to make of the activities of the Portuguese charge d'affaires, Mr Francisco de Sales Mascarenhas, who acted as instigator and accomplice in the assault of the Ecuadorean Embassy and in the subsequent kidnapping of the ambassador, His Excellency Perez Concha, and other officials.

Continuing its aggressive statements against Cuba as an additional and unjustified reply to that denunciation of the Cuban Government, the Portuguese Foreign Ministry that same day, 17 March, notified the Cuban Ambassador in that country, Comrade Manuel Estevez Perez, that under the terms of Article 9 of the 1961 Vienna Convention the Portuguese Government had decided to consider said ambassador persona non grata, requesting that he leave Portuguese territory within the next 48 hours.

In its public explanation, the Portuguese Foreign Ministry has stated that as a matter of courtesy, the reasons for its government's decision were summarily explained to the ambassador.

According to information received from Ambassador Estevez, the reason given by the foreign relations minister was that the Government of Cuba had taken more than 48 hours to reply to the request of guarantees for Mr Mascarenhas.

The lack of justification of such an action is obvious when, on two occasions during that time, Ambassador Manuel Estevez, as representative of the Government of Cuba, personally assured Foreign Minister Goncalves Pereira that, in keeping with the traditions of Cuban revolutionary diplomacy and with the principles of the Government of Cuba, there was not the slightest insecurity for Mr Mascarenhas who, despite his obviously criminal action, was protected by the immunity which his diplomatic post assured him.

It is obvious that the attitude of the Government of Portugal converts into a political conflict between Cuba and Portugal what initially was nothing more than Cuba's inevitable denunciation of the personal action of a Portuguese diplomat. The Government of Cuba at no time linked the action of the aforementioned Mascarenhas with the positions of the Government of Portugal and this separation was made perfectly clear in the explanations of Vice Minister Alarcon.

The extemporaneous attitude of the Government of Portugal, the action of the Government of Portugal, places it in solidarity with the vituperative actions of Marscarenhas, who not only violated Cuban laws and norms of international diplomacy, but also displayed despicable conduct which endangered the lives of Ambassador Perez Concha and other diplomats.

It is the sad privilege of the Government of Portugal of having selected that path instead of requesting and waiting, as would have been the normal thing to do, for the evidence which the Government of Cuba was preparing to offer.

The public appearance in an interview broadcast by Cuban television of the criminals who assaulted the Ecuadorean Embassy, in the course of which Mascarenhas' illegitimate conduct was completely corroborated, is the most adequate reply to the absurd and premature defense of the criminal who acted under the protection of diplomatic immunity. We know that cases as this one are inevitable and cannot serve to characterize the action of the diplomatic corps of a country.

The regretful thing of this case is that a government, in order to follow the chorus of acts of aggression against Cuba stimulated by Washington, has become defender of a miserable transgressor.

PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR SCORES U.S. POLICIES

FL192020 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The recently held U.S. military maneuvers on canal territory violate Article 4 on protection and defense of the Panama Canal Treaty, Lic Miguel Angel Picard Ami, ambassador of the Republic of Panama to Cuba, has started. During an interview with this political information program, the Panamanian ambassador indicated that the preparation of contingency plans for the protection and defense of the canal and planning and conducting joint military exercises should be decided upon by a body formed by Panamanians and North Americans.

He added: [Begin Picard recording] The United States by itself cannot conduct military maneuvers and operations in the area known as the canal area, formerly Canal Zone, without coordinating these exercises and operations with Panamanian military authorities. They did not previously inform Panama when they conducted the last exercises. They did inform Panama when the operations were practically underway and organized. They then invited Panama to participate, and Panama refused, firstly, because it was a disrespectful action and, secondly, because these operations must be the product of a previous coordination between the military authorities of the two countries. [end recording]

Picard Ami referred to the attitude of the Panamanian people and government vis-a-vis the increased military capability and aggressive maneuvers of the United States in the Central American and Caribbean area:

[Begin Picard recording] The Panamanian Government, through its President Dr Aristides Royo, has indicated that the Caribbean area should be an area of peace as the Indian Ocean should be, that is, it should not be used as an area of pressure or an area of military activities which could jeopardize the integrity, sovereignty and peace in the region. Fruthermore, we believe that the United States must overcome the phase of believing that the Caribbean is a mare nostrum. The Caribbean is a part of the Atlantic Ocean and as such, it is a sea that should be at the service of coastal peoples and at the service of the world, and not under the hegemony and political, military or economic control of one superpower. [end recording]

Elsewhere in the interview, the Panamanian ambassador talked about the ways in which his country is struggling for making a reality the principles agreed upon during the sixth nonaligned countries summit conference dealing with foreign military bases. He stated that the imperialist military bases constitute a threat to the sovereignty of the country where they are located and are places used to attack or attempt against the security and sovereignty of other nations.

[Begin Picard recording] That is why we openly oppose the use of the School of the Americas for the preparation of Salvadoran military men who were going to attack the Salvadoran people or that the United States would use, as it had been doing in the past when the Canal Zone existed, the military bases it had in Panama to attack the Dominican Republic, Cuba and so forth. From that point of view, we have opposed the military bases at all forums and have requested the return of the Guantanamo Base to Cuba because we believe it violates its sovereignty and affects its dignity as a free and sovereign country. [end recording]

In connection with the current Cental American situation and Washington's interventionist plans in El Salvador, Miguel Angel Picard Ami stated that his country advocates a political solution to the Salvadoran problem to avoid the continued bleeding to death of that heroic people. [Begin Picard recording] But, one thing must be clear, Panama has opposed any type of intervention from abroad or private by a country which is attempting to become a gendarme of America. [end recording]

Finally, the Panamanian ambassador referred to the relations existing between his country and ours and stated: [Begin recording] The Panamanian relations with Cuba are excellent.

Throughout the years that we have had this mission here, my predecessors and I have always tried to strengthen those relations between fraternal peoples because of their historic future and similarity of purposes. The best demonstration that the relations are more than cordial and fraternal and will continue to be so and will continue to be stronger is the fact that some weeks ago both the President of the Republic Dr Aristides Royo and Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera, leader of the Panamanian revolution and commander in chief of the National Guard, pointed out and responded in an angry, firm and resolute manner to U.S. Secretary of State Haig when he attempted to meddle in the relations of Panama with Cuba, indicating that they should be limited or diminishec because the United States felt they were dangerous. Both the President of the Republic Dr Royo and General Torrijos responded in a firm manner, firstly, that the relations of our country were conducted by us, and secondly, that we do not accept that others set the guidelines for our foreign policy. General Torrijos said that the note had the wrong address because it should have been addressed to the colonial Governor of Puerto Rico Romero Barcelo and not Panama. President Royo said that Panama's concern is that the United States fulfills the treaties signed by Carter. [end recording]

STATION SAYS CIA INCREASING INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

PA190339 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Mar 81

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] No doubt, the CIA is increasing its activities throughout the world after receiving the green light from Ronald Reagan's administration. The most recent targets of the CIA's interventionist activities have been Mauritania, Cuba and Mozambique. The CIA has also increased its activities in Iran, the Palestinian movement and the Nonaligned Movement. The CIA is also giving logistical and material support to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries in Pakistan and to the genocidal bands attacking Kampuchea from Thailand.

Most recently, the authorities in Mozambique broke up a CIA espionage ring in Maputo which was trying to destabilize the revolutionary government of Samora Machel. This led to the expulsion from the country of six U.S. Embassy officials, including the embassy's second secretary.

The evidence presented by the Government of Mozambique, the testimony of two of the most important agents recruited by the CIA and an army officer whom the Mozambique security authorities managed to infiltrate into the espionage ring, are evidence enough that the CIA, following U.S. Government instructions, is ready to launch an intense campaign in Africa and the Middle East. It was also learned that the espionage ring's main objective was to obstruct the national liberation struggle in South Africa and to destabilize Mozambique and other front line states: Angola, Zambia, Tanzania and Botswana.

The news media in Maputo fully covered the CIA's activities in Mozambique from colonial times to its independence in 1975.

Mozambique security organs reported in a communique that 15 CIA agents had directly intervened in activities against the country's sovereignty and that for this reason six members of the U.S. diplomatic mission were expelled from the country. The chief of the CIA's espionage ring in Maputo was identified as Frederick Boise Lundall, the embassy's second secretary, who until June 1980 was assistant secretary of the U.S. Embassy in Zambia, and before that had held diplomatic posts in Ethiopia and Malawi. This espionage ring sought military and political information from the liberation front of Mozambique. The investigations also proved that the CIA had recruited agents in economic and strategic institutions in Mozambique. The CIA also showed an interest in Angolan and Soviet airline activities and in the comings and goings of Cubans who are cooperating with Mozambique. Another objective of the CIA's espionage ring was to obtain firsthand information on refugees and members of the national liberation movements of South Africa, Namibia, East Timor, Western Sahara and Palestine.

All this proves that the United States is increasing its interventionist activities to destroy the revolutionary organizations in Asia, Africa and Latin America which are struggling for their freedom and independence.

FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA RETURNS FROM VISITS

FL191212 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has returned to Havana following a tour of Switzerland, Cyprus and Lebanon, where he held talks to nalyze the Nonaligned Movement's efforts to help solve the Iran-Iraq conflict.

PCC OFFICIAL HAILS IMPROVEMENT OF HAVANA SERVICES

FL181729 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Politburo and first party secretary in Havana City Province, has pointed out the gains made in the province's services sector which, he said, does not mean that everything has been resolved. In his closing remarks at a meeting held to examine the accomplishments of the services sector at the main offices of the provincial party, Camacho Aguilera noted the importance of paying attention to the population's views on the results attained in this sphere of work and urged all parties involved to seek rapid solutions to the problems.

We cannot take years to solve the difficulties, he insisted. On the contrary, we must make good use of the resources obtained abroad, and observe the norm of beginning one project as soon as one ends with very special unavoidable exceptions. The population is starting to receive a better service and hopes to see a progressive optimization, Camacho added. If the complaints at assembly meetings of the people's government have shown a progressive decrease--in the last two they were 495 and 215--we will work harder to diminish them more and more.

Referring to the difficulty in acquiring spare parts, especially for equipment assembled in the country, Camacho suggested to end the situation by using factors linked to that task [as heard] and in that sense mentioned the situation of the picture tubes for television sets. It was announced that more than 38,000 picture tubes have been received to take care of long-delayed repairs. It was also announced that efforts are being made to obtain UHF antenna attachments to solve the problems being encountered with the traditional ones. Another topic taken up was the kerosene stoves, of which 1.08 million will be manufactured in this 5-year period.

Camacho Aguilera noted the need for ascertaining the existence or nonexistence of parts prior to undertaking the construction of a project as well as possibilities of contamination of the environment. He called on the comrades responsible for this type of task to have good relations with the Directorate of Physical Planning.

HAVANA CITES ENVOY SPEECH AT LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE

FL181752 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] United Nations--Cuba's vice minister of foreign relations, Pelegrin Torras, has warned of the possibility that the United States will ultimately destroy the gains achieved so far by the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea.

In a speech yesterday to the conference's plenum, the head of the Cuban delegation unmasked the alleged lack of familiarity claimed by the administration of President Ronald Reagan concerning the draft convention that has been the object of intense negotiations for 7 years. The position of the new U.S. administration, Pelegrin Torras said, responds to the interests of U.S. mining consortia which want unlimited exploitation of the seabeds.

ARMED FORCES COMMEMORATE MONGOLIAN ARMY DAY

FL190156 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The will to struggle and combat morale of the Mongolian people's army was underscored today by Brig Gen (Carlos Rodes Moro), deputy to the minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) and chief of the FAR rear guard. Brigadier General (Rodes) was speaking at the FAR commemoration of the 60th founding anniversary of that fraternal country's army. Mongolian Ambassador to Cuba Ochiryn Tsend also spoke at the ceremony.

The brigadier general emphasized the path of sacrifices and successes of the people's army whose feats have guaranteed the gains of that nation since its definitive independence. Ambassador Tsend recalled the great feats of the Mongolian people's army in defense of the country's revolutionary gains.

EUDCATION COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH PDRY

FL182146 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2137 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] A cooperation agreement in the fields of education, science and culture between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] and Cuba has been signed at the Foreign Relations Ministry. Acting Foreign Minister Jose Fernandez de Cossio and PDRY Ambassador to Cuba Ahmad 'Ali Maysari signed the agreement which calls for ratification of scholarships granted by Cuba for the training of youths at higher education schools. The agreement further calls for the exchange of teaching and bibliographic materials and of higher and technological education delegations.

The agreement signed between Yemen and Cuba provides for the exchange of specialists and officials to study the development of the central cultural and scientific life in the two countries.

ANGOLAN DELEGATION MET BY EDUCATION OFFICIALS

FL191849 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] Antonio Jacinto, member of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]-Labor Party Central Committee, has arrived in our country accompanied by an Angolan delegation. (Ruth Lara), director of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee cadre department, and (Joaquim Matias), vice minister of education of that fraternal country, are also members of the delegation.

At the Jose Marti International Airport, the visitors were met by Education Minister Jose R. Fernandez and Vice Minister of Education Asela de los Santos, both members of the PCC Central Committee, as well as other officials of the Education Ministry and the PCC Central Committee.

BRIEFS

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION--Sandor Lakos, scientific director of Hungary's Institute of Sociology, has visited the Western Europe Studies Center in Havana. The Hungarian delegation held talks with the center's director, Comrade Gustavo Mazorra. Lakos, who is a member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee, said his institute was ready to sign a cooperation agreement in the area of social research. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1510 GMT 19 Mar 81 FL]

MEXICAN DEPUTY--Marco Antonio Aguilar Cortes, editorialist for the Mexican Daily EXCELSIOR, has visited the offices of GRANMA, where he was welcomed by the paper's director, Jorge Enrique Mendoza. Aguilar is also a federal deputy for the first district of the Mexican state of Michoacan. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Mar 81 FL]

FILM, TV AGREEMENT--A cooperation agreement between the GDR's Association of Film and Television Specialists and the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists' [UNEAC] radio, film and television section has been signed in Havana. The document was signed by the association's president, Lothar Bellag, and the UNEAC's Jose Massip. The document provides for the exchange of delegations, information material and publications for 1981. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Mar 81 FL]

CULTURAL EVALUATION--Culture Minister Armando Hart, a member of the PCC Politburo, has said that cultural sensibility and interest are booming in Cuba. Closing the meeting to evaluate cultural work in 1980, Hart said the cultural mass movement is extraordinary and noted the need to improve the system and make its administration more efficient. It was reported at the meeting that 24 houses of culture opened last year and 62,683 activities attended by more than 5.2 million people were held in houses of culture all over Cuba. In addition, the amateur movement had more than 280,000 members who put on more than 425,600 performances attended by nearly 47 million spectators. There are 380 literary workshops at present with almost 5,000 members; the libraries had some 6 million clients and the national museum network has 78 installations to date. Publishing houses printed 1,143 individual titles, 1,178 sets and 42,627,300 book copies. More than 260 Cuban authors were published. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Mar 81 FL]

TRANSPORTATION WORKERS PLENUM--PCC Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdes has made the closing remarks at the Transportation Workers Union plenum, during which the results of the Second PCC Congress special emulation were announced. Also chairing the plenum was Guillermo Garcia, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of transportation. Risquet stated that in 1980, 6,536 workers from units, 1,277 from enterprises, 298 at the provincial level and 51 at the national level were selected as the best in the country. He also stressed the need for maintaining an intense enthusiasm in connection with the emulation movement, both the individual and collective, and noted the important contribution made by the outstanding workers to the country's economy. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 19 Mar 81 FL]

ESPIN AT AWARD CEREMONY--Vilma Espin, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and president of the Federation of Cuban Women, was presented the 1 May flag to the 60th October Revolution anniversary brigade for having cut four million arrobas of cane in the current sugar harvest. On behalf of the canecutting brigade of the Transportation Workers Union, Braulio Mas Oliva, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of the brigade, accepted the coveted award during a ceremony held at the (Chalus) gathering center in Santa Cruz del Norte, Havana Province. At the time of presenting the flag accrediting the brigade as four-times-millionaire--the first brigade to cut that much cane this year--Vilma greeted the workers on behalf of army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 19 Mar 81 FL]

CARICOM MINISTERS ISSUE 'BELMOPAN DECLARATION'

FL192349 Bridgetown CANA in English 2338 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 19 Mar (CANA)--Caribbean Community (CARICOM) foreign ministers have, in a document dubbed the Declaration of Belmopan, reminded Britain of its responsibility to guarantee the security of Belize after independence. The ministers ended a 2-day special session in the Belize capital yesterday and a summary of their final declaration was issued today by the Barbados Ministry of External Affairs.

Britain and Guatemala last week reached provisional agreement recognizing the Central American colony of Belize as a future sovereign nation. Details of certain aspects of the agreement are still to be worked out. Guatemala had been claiming for more than a century sections of Belize and had threatened the colony with invasion if Britain granted independence before the dispute was settled.

"Th independence of Belize must be achieved before the end of 1981 irrespective of the progress of these negotiations... "the ministers said. They said that "it is the responsibility of the Government of the United Kingdom to continue to insure the security and territorial integrity of Belize and in concert with the Government of Belize, pursue appropriate arrangements to guarantee the security of an independent Belize."

The Britain/Guatemala pact gives Guatemala "the use and enjoyment" of two cays or islands off the Belizean coast and rights in the sea areas adjacent to the cays as may be agreed".

The ministers said that these "privileges granted in a spirit of goodwill and conciliation must not derogate from its sovereignty" nor must they undermine the promotion of peaceful relations between states in the region.

The seven states represented, excluding Belize, said that they were ready to give all appropriate technical and other assistance to the CARICOM partner in the conduct of further talks with Guatemala."... A secure and independent Belize is essential to the development of full and harmonious relations between the countries of the Caribbean and Central America," the ministers said. They promised to keep the situation under review and to take appropriate action in the light of future development.

The ministers said that they fully supported the pact between Belize and Guatemala and Britain and recorded "their satisfaction" with Guatemala's recognition of the right of Belize to become independent with its existing and traditional frontiers.

Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts-Nevis and St Lucia attended the meeting. An observer from the Commonwealth Secretariat was also present.

BAHAMAS

CONFIDENCE VOTE DELAYED 'TO PREVENT DISORDER'

FL191418 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Excerpt] At precisely 1130 last night, the business of the House of Assembly was suspended to prevent a disorder. This came after some 7 1/2 hours of debate on the resolution of confidence in the prime minister, the Right Honorable Lynden Pindling, moved by the government leader and Deputy Prime Minister the Honorable Arthur D. Hanna. The last person to speak on the motion was Marsh Harbour member of Parliament, Mr Michael Lightbourn.

At 1125 the resolution of confidence was [words indistinct] approved. It was at this point that opposition leader Mr Norman Solomon said that due to the lateness of the hour, he would not proceed with the several resolutions standing in the opposition's name.

The leader of the Free National Democratic Movement, Mr J. Henry Bostwick then said: I will be proceeding with my resolution on no confidence in the prime minister. He was then reminded by the speaker, Sir Clifford Darling, that he, the speaker, in an earlier ruling had stated that debate would not be allowed on [word indistinct] resolutions. Mr Bostwick then replied: With the greatest of respect Mr Speaker, I disagree; basically and fundamentally they are two different resolutions. The speaker said: You cannot move it. Mr Bostwick then proceeded to read his resolution.

Government leader Mr Hanna then said it would be an abuse of the privileges of the house to allow the honorable member to become a martyr and as it appeared that (?Bostwick) was intent on defying the speaker, he, Mr Hanna, had no choice but to move for the suspension of the house to prevent a disorder. The business of the house was then suspended until next Wednesday, March 25th.

In his resolution of confidence, Mr Hanna said the opposition and, indeed, the country, would never find a more understanding, humble, tolerant and sensible man in this generation like Mr Pindling and he (?at that) time implored the opposition to abstain and ignore the censure motion. If I were them, said the government leader, I would save the censure motion for an issue they regard as fundamental. Earlier in the debate Mr Hanna noted that Mr Bostwick had been given ample time and opportunity to proceed with his motion of no confidence but had failed to do so, a motion, he said, which by its very nature, should have been given top priority. Mr Hanna said he very reluctantly proceeded with his motion to have the matter dealt with once and for all in the present session.

The government since coming to power, he said, has provided the most sound, stable and popular government in this part of the world. The work (?it) has done, he said, can only be described as magnificent. The prime minister and his government, said the deputy prime minister, never claimed to be perfect. (?We have), he said, made some mistakes but we have learned from our mistakes.

Opposition leader Mr Norman Solomon and his three colleagues, Messrs Keith Duncombe, Michael Lightbourn and (A. James Knowles), all stated that they had no confidence in the prime minister or his government and outlined what they claimed to be many deficiencies of the present administration over the past 14 years.

BARBADOS

GOVERNMENT TO REGULATE INSURANCE COMPANIES

FL181848 Bridgetown CANA in English 1830 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 18 Mar (CANA)--The Government of Barbados is moving to regulate all life and industrial insurance companies operating in the country, prime minister and minister of finance, Mr Tom Adams, has said.

Speaking in the House of Assembly, Mr Adams said that his government was aiming ultimately at localizing life insurance companies, and that the first phase was to regulate foreign companies.

As far as general insurance was concerned, the prime minister said that he saw little reason why foreign companies would need to continue operating in Barbados.

"Government did not feel that all risks could be insured locally, but that they would have to be some reinsurance abroad," he told house.

Mr Adams said that he regretted that some insurance companies were carrying on business in a manner which did not give satisfaction to the supervisor of insurance.

"They were some subsidiary companies of a holding company with no assets.... A holding company in some instances where it was impossible to say who was the real owner," he said.

"We are giving these companies the benefit of the doubt while their affairs are under investigation," Mr Adams said.

NEW CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

FL181445 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 13 Mar 81 p 1

[Excerpt] Unless small and defenseless countries stand shoulder to shoulder in their quest for survival and a better tomorrow, the future of the youth in these countries will remain in jeopardy.

This opinion was expressed yesterday by Mr. Andreas Mavrommatis, the new high commissioner of Cyprus to Barbados, when he presented his credentials to Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward.

DOMINICA

ENVOY SETS UK POSITION ON STATE OF EMERGENCY

FL192314 Bridgetown CANA in English 2306 GMT 18 Mar 81

[By Peter Richards]

[Excerpts] Roseau, Dominica, 19 Mar (CANA)--Britain said today that it regarded the present state of emergency in Dominica as an internal matter and would not want to become actively involved in security operations on the island. The London position was outlined here today during a press briefing by the Barbados-based British high commissioner to the Eastern Caribbean, Stanley Arthur.

Mr Arthur, accompanied by a three man team, including the head of the British Development Division in the Caribbean, Brian Thorpe, arrived here today to present to the Dominica Government a silver tea set, as part of Britain's independence gift to the island.

Commenting to reporters after his talks with Miss Charles, Mr Arthur said: "Basically we would regard the present crisis as being very much an internal matter for the government and we would not wish to become operationally concerned or involved in it in any way," he said.

He said Britain had "traditionally offered training for the police...and we are continuing in that, in fact we have increased the amount of aid we have given to the police training and equipment up and down the Eastern Caribbean very considerably in the last year or two."

Mr Arthur said that his discussions with Miss Charles today touched on the question of Dominica's contribution to a regional coast guard. "We are going to ask that we should offer Dominica advice on what type of boats that they should patrol with...and we should also discuss in due course wether we could help them acquire whatever it is we decide that they need," he said.

GRENADA

BISHOP SCORES U.S. AID TO SALVADORAN JUNTA

FL171653 Bridgetown CANA in English 1647 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 17 Mar [CANA]--American military aid to the rightwing ruling junta in El Salvador will only deepen the divisions in the strife-torn country, Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said.

In the end, the aid would not be able to keep the junta from falling to the leftist guerrillas because the majority of Salvadorans wanted a change and were not prepared to discard their struggle, Bishop added.

The United States had given the junta 45 million dollars (US) worth of military equipment, Bishop claimed, adding: "It won't help to bring about a political solution. It will achieve greater polarization.

"It will make the war in El Salvador last longer, and I have no doubt that it will not have the effect of stopping the eventual victory of the people of El Salvador because that must come."

The vast majority of the people of El Salvador were dissatisfied with the military junta, Bishop said.

Sections of the media have falsely portrayed the conflict in that country as being between a minority of the left and a minority of the right, he added.

"The reality is that the vast majority of the people of El Salvador are unhappy with the junta", he said, "and do want a change, and the only answer must be centered around allowing the people of El Salvador the right to determine for themselves how they want to see their country run."

Bishop said he understood the position of some of the people in the United States Government to be based on the decision that the junta is in command, must stay in command and the United States will give all the necessary military assistance.

CUBAN, NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS VERBALLY ATTACK U.S.

FL142100 Bridgetown CANA in English 2055 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 14 Mar, (CANA)--The United States came under strong verbal attack yesterday as Grenada marked the second anniversary of its revolution.

The sharpest barbs came at a rally from Luis Carrion, head of the Nicaraguan delegation, and Sergio del Valle, the minister of health in Cuba.

Del Valle declared Cuba's "revolutionary solidarity" with the people of Grenada. He said the gains of the Grenada revolution were recognizable, and could not have been made without the revolution and leadership of Maurice Bishop's New Jewel Movement.

The Cuban health minister warned Grenadians to be alert and strong in the face of what he said was "rising and raging U.S. imperialist forces."

He spoke of a military project embarked upon by the U.S. which costs about one million dollars a day. That, he said, was indicative of the aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism.

Del Valle said that Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador and other Latin American and African states would continue to fight for liberation and social justice and development despite U.S. imperialist counterrevolutionary attempts.

He pointed out that in order for revolutionary struggle to be defeated, all such substantiated examples must first be wiped out, "but this is impossible, since heroic revolutionary examples will always live on."

Del Valle said that in Grenada, they had seen the developments of the government and people, and he expressed satisfaction with the fraternal relationships which existed between Grenada and other revolutionary countries around the world.

Grenada could always be assured of fraternal solidarity from Cuba and other countries, once it continued to be engaged in the struggle for justice, he said.

Luis Carrion, member of the National Directorate of the Sandinist Front of Nicaragua, said that whereas under the past dictatorship Grenada was only a little island in the ocean, "today there is a great change."

He described Grenada as one of the homes of struggling people in the Caribbean and Latin America...we will go on despite the U.S. imperialist efforts to divert us from our revolutionary goals."

UNIONS DECRY DEMOTION OF FORMER COMMISSIONER

FL172156 Bridgetown CANA in English 2153 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 17 Mar (CANA)--Unions seeking higher wages for government workers have charged here that Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's administration is squeezing a loyal supporter simply because he is exercising his industrial rights.

The Grenada Union of Teachers, Technical and Allied Workers Union and the Public Workers Union have made the allegation in connection with the case of former labor commissioner Robert Robinson.

Mr Robinson was recently transferred from his top post to the relatively insignificant one, with reduced pay, of communications officer in the rural area of St Patricks.

The action against him came as part of government's tough move towards some of the state employees who staged a sick-out to dramatize the unions demands for a 60 percent salaries hike spread over 3 years.

Government had rejected that, offering a maximum of 32 percent, over the same period.

A statement today from the three unions said government's action against Robinson was "unfair, unjust, unwarranted and calculated to discredit him."

"We have evidence that Robinson has supported and stubbornly defended the Grenada revolution both at home and abroad and we are deeply hurt at the attacks and urge that they be discontinued," the unions told the government.

Robinson was the most senior, but not the only one, to feel the weight of government's hand.

Following public demonstrations in the various parishes condemning the sick-out, the government either dismissed, transferred or suspended some senior staffers, and sent warning letters to 70 others.

Government has said if it yielded to the public servants' demands, it would have to increase taxes substantially, cut back on social services and retrench workers.

"Naturally, this would result in terrible misery for the families that depend on those unfortunate comrades who have lost their jobs," it said.

In a record budget this year, some taxes were increased and the government said the aim was to raise 3.5 million dollars (1 E.C. dollar: 37 cents U.S.) for reasonable increases to the public servants.

The unions ordered the industrial action after negotiations broke down in January, and following government's tough retaliatory measures. The unions suspended the sick-out, explaining that was to ensure success of Grenada's second revolutionary anniversary celebrations.

Apart from their strong revulsion over the Robinson issue, the unions have indicated they were willing to reopen the dead-locked negotiations if government withdrew all the threatening letters.

A government source said here this afternoon that the cabinet will be meeting tomorrow to review the industrial situation and consider the union's offer to resume talks behind closed doors.

FOUR ADDITIONAL TRAWLERS RECEIVED FROM CUBA

FL172318 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Grenada has received four more trawlers to help in the development of this country's fisheries industry. The trawlers, which are a gift from the government and people of Cuba, arrived in St Georges harbor this afternoon. Agriculture Minister Brother Unison Whiteman has expressed Grenada's appreciation for the gift which has been provided under the technical and economic agreement signed between Grenada and Cuba.

[Begin recording] I am sure you know of the agreement, the technical and economic cooperation agreement, between the government and people of Grenada and the government and people of Cuba. In accordance with this agreement, Grenada has already received two boats over the past year or so and word has just come that a number of other boats has just arrived this afternoon. And on behalf of the government and people of Grenada, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for this further gift in the realization of the agreement between our two peoples, between the two revolutionary peoples of the Caribbean. And, for our part, we appreciate this effort, this further gift, to help us to develop our country and to build a new society. [end recording]

JAMAICA

POLL SHOWS JAMAICANS SUPPORT CLOSE TIES WITH U.S.

FL171426 Bridgetown CANA in English 1418 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 17 March (CANA)--Jamaicans support close ties between the government of Prime Minister Edward Seaga and the administration of President Ronald Reagan in the United States, according to an opinion poll here.

Pollster Dr Carl Stone said his survey, done early in February, showed that 85 percent supported a close Seaga-Reagan friendship, while only 10 percent said it was not a good idea.

Five percent had no views on the matter.

President Reagan and Prime Minister Seaga are of similar ideological outlook, and since their election victories late last year have firmed up U.S.-Jamaica relations.

Mr Seaga was President Reagan's first foreign visitor after his inauguration. Our of the Washington parley came establishment of a joint business commission to study investment opportunities for this economically troubled island.

According to Dr Stone, whose polls are published by the Gleaner newspapers, those who were in favor of the ties were hoping for greater U.S. aid, a greater flow of American investment, opportunities to emigrate and generally felt that the countries had a basis for common interest.

Those who opposed the ties feared American imperialism.

PRESIDENT BURNHAM TO VISIT VENEZUELA 2-3 APRIL

FL190004 Bridgetown CANA in English 2332 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, 18 Mar (CANA)--A long-standing border dispute between Guyana and its oil-rich western neighbor Venezuela will be the main point of discussion when the presidents of the two republics meet in Venezuela next month, informed sources here said today. President Forbes Burnham will travel to Venezuela on an official visit on 2-3 April at the invitation of President Luis Herrera Campins.

A brief release today said the two leaders will discuss "a wide range of matters of mutual and international interest," but according to sources here, the border dispute will feature high on the agenda for the meeting. Venezuela has a claim, dating back to the end of the 19th century to about 50,000 square miles in Guyana's western region.

The disputed territory is crucially important to Guyana which has proposed setting up a billion dollar hydro-electricity alumimium smelter scheme in the Mazaruni region close to the Venezuelan border. The hydro-power project got formal approval last year from the World Bank for financing and the Guyana Government has said it is now trying to attract international partners for the alumimium smelter.

They added that the two presidents would also be hoping to push for greater bilateral trade because Venezuela was interested in buying rice and timber from Guyana while this country could be supplied with Venezuelan capital and intermediate goods. Bilateral trade is currently almost negligible, limited to Guyana importing items like electrical equipment from Venezuela under a 1.5-million dollars (US) line of credit.

Asked if Guyana would be seeking access to oil from Venezuela at concessionary prices during the meeting, the sources said they were not in a position to state that such a request would be made but pointed out that since the "possibilities in the talks are wide open" that issue "could come up too."

They will also discuss the proposed North-South summit scheduled for Mexico in October since the two countries are among four states which will represent Latin America at that conference.

This will be Mr Burnham's third trip to Venezuela but his first as executive head of state.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSES PPP OF PLOTTING AGAINST ECONOMY

FL172207 Bridgetown CANA in English 2143 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, 17 Mar (CANA)--The Guyana Government today accused the main opposition People's Progressive Party--PPP--here of planning to sabotage the national economy and of disturbing the "prevailing peace" in the country.

A statement from the Home Affairs Ministry also declared that "every effort is being taken to prevent the PPP from thwarting the government's efforts to establish a prosperous and just society based on the principles of socialist democracy."

The ministry said it was "in receipt of information" that the PPP was "in the process of formulating plans to create disruption in the sugar industry and in other areas where the national economy was likely to be affected."

It alleged that the party was acting in concert with its powerful trade union arm, the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers Union [GAWU] which dominates the sugar industry here, to create (?"industrial) unrest among employees" in a number of drainage and irrigation schemes.

A brief item on the allegations was first flashed by the state radio station on its noon newscast today and the full statement was this afternoon released to reporters here by the Information Ministry.

The statement also accused the PPP of being behind a reported recent series of short strikes in the sugar industry which it said had taken its toll on efforts to increase production in the industry.

Chairman of the state-run sugar industry Harold Davis earlier this month alleged that the strikes in the industry followed a clear pattern which affected maximum output on the industry's 10 sugar factories.

According to today's statement, these strikes appeared "to bear some relation" to statements reportedly made by PPP leader Dr Cheddi Jagan recently in London where he was reported to have said that strikes here were imminent because of mass discontent with the government of President Forbes Burnham.

"This is but another example of the irresponsible attitude of the minority party which clearly has no regard for the working class whose livelihood depends on the success of the industries in which they work," the government said.

It added that it was "in the interest of every Guyanese, especially workers in the sugar, bauxite, rice and drainage and irrigation sectors, to be more vigilant and ensure that these destabilizers are not successful in their plans to disturb the prevailing peace and to sabotage the economy."

The PPP's initial reaction to the statement was that the government was "looking for scapegoats for their poor performance with the economy and the mounting dissatisfaction of Guyanese citizens."

OPPOSITION URGES CARIBBEAN SUPPORT FOR GRENADA

FL141908 Bridgetown CANA in English 1844 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 14 Mar, (CANA)--Guyana's People's Progressive Party (PPP) today urged full Caribbean support for the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in Grenada, which yesterday observed the second anniversary of its taking power from the Eric Gairy government.

A statement here said the PPP was impressed with the achievements of the Maurice Bishop government in St Georges.

The Grenada revolution was the "crowning light" in the Caribbean, the PPP declared, adding that the peoples of the Caribbean should give "militant solidarity and support, both moral and practical, to the Grenada revolution."

The government and people of Grenada, it said, had been subjected to "overwhelming harassment, threats and vile acts of terror and sabotage during 2 years in office, but these have not daunted the spirit of the people and their leaders."

The PPP was confident that the Grenada Government would add new meaning to the national slogan of "forward ever, backward never," and praise Grenadians for "courage, resourcefulness and an admirable attitude of resoluteness" in responding to their problems over the past 2 years.

SOURCES SAY COUP LEADER INJURED, NOT KILLED

FL171222 Bridgetown CANA in English 0357 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 16 Mar (CANA)--Alleged coup leader Sergeant-Major W. Hawker, 25, was shot and seriously injured and his companion, L. Weissnebruch, killed when loyal government troops ambushed their vehicle late last night to foil a suspected coup, army sources have said.

Hawker was earlier reported to have been killed, but the sources confirmed the dead man to be Weissnebruch, also a soldier, who was driving the car.

They said the shooting took place in the district of Saramacca, as the Sergeant-Major was on his way back to the capital, Paramaribo.

Hawker was among the leaders of the military uprising in February 1980 which mushroomed out of a trade union dispute and toppled the elected government of Prime Minister Henk Arron.

Last night's reported plot is the third attempt at a counter-coup since Arron's downfall.

Weissnebruch, whose rank was not immediately known, is said to be among 12 soldiers the National Military Council (NMC) alleges were involved in the plot with Hawker.

According to the sources, the army had arrested three Chinese who are suspected of having financed the soldiers for the attempt to overthrow the government of President Henk Chin A Sen.

However, when pressed for more precise details about the nationality of the trio, they said they did not know whether the three persons were "Suriname Chinese or foreign Chinese."

The country has citizens of Chinese ancestry, and there is also a Chinese mission in Paramaribo.

They said information about the plot was leaked to the army's intelligence unit and the ambush was said to have been launched as Hawker was returning to Paramaribo to put the coup plans into effect under the cover of military exercises.

NON-RESIDENTIAL ENVOYS TO BE EXCHANGED WITH CUBA

FL140033 Bridgetown CANA in English 0022 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 13 Mar, (CANA)--Cuba and Suriname have agreed to exchange ambassadors at non-residential level, Suriname's Foreign Minister Dr Harvey Naarandorp announced at a news conference here.

Dr Naarandorp said the decision represented another conscious policy by his military-backed government to deepen its relations with the Caribbean and Suriname's South American neighbors.

Cuba and Suriname established diplomatic relations in 1979 when deposed Prime Minister Henck Arron went to Havana to attend the sixth summit of the Nonaligned Movement.

Seven months later relations between the two countries appeared to be heading for a collision course when the current army leaders accused some of their colleagues of plotting with the Cuban Government to overthrow the administration of Dr Chin A Sen.

The accusation was followed swiftly with the banning of four Cubans including the Guyana-Suriname desk officer in the Cuban Communist Party (Olivia Trujillo Ramirez), when they were preparing to visit Suriname last August.

However there was a thaw in relations between the two countries when the Suriname Government accepted an inviation to send a mixed delegation to the Second Congress of the Cuban Communist Party last December.

The decision to exchange ambassadors follows closely on a visit here by a top-level Cuban delegation to the first anniversary celebrations of the Suriname revolution on February 25.

Included in the Cuban delegation were the country's Ambassador to Guyana Mr Ivan Cesar Martinez, Cuba's Caribbean expert Osvaldo Cardenas and Mr [as received] (Ramirez).

GOVERNMENT RESTRICTS VISAS FOR DUTCH JOURNALISTS

FL161155 Bridgetown CANA in English 1541 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 15 Mar (CANA)--Journalists from The Netherlands no longer have relatively free access to this former Dutch colony because of their negative reports, the government has said.

In a statement released through its information service, the government said its policy of granting visas to the journalists had become selective because of what it termed its sad experience with the Dutch press.

Suriname was not against criticism by the press, the government said, but it had to be fair.

The government said it rejected attempts by the Dutch press to try to adopt the role of its and the Suriname people's guardian.

The official statement was issued after the Dutch Association of Journalists had protested against the official policy regarding the granting of visas to Dutch journalists wishing to visit the country.

Last month the government limited the number of journalists coming here from Holland to cover celebrations marking the first anniversary of the coup that toppled Prime Minister Henck Arron.

The Suriname Government said negative reporting by such journalists had caused unrest here and among Surinamers living in The Netherlands.